www.saipantribune.com 50¢ Volume XIX, Issue No. 82 MONDAY APRIL 6, 2009





POLL RESULTS

Have you already registered to vote in the November elections?

Yes-30

No-30

Sunday, April 05, 2009

INSIDE

Murder-Suicide

A father shot to death five of his children at their mobile home and then killed himself

NATION...Page 15



Defiant Korea

North Korea fired a rocket over Japan on Sunday, defying Washington, Tokyo and other world leaders.

ASIA...Page 16



Fast & Furious

Vin Diesel, jaw clenched and brow knitted, was pacing the patio in a state of coiled discontent.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

Teen arrested for DUI, eluding cop; 2 detained. PAGE 3 Motion to postpone \$20K payment to Pellegrino nixed. PAGE 5



BOOK SALE

A man browses through the shelves of used books for sale in front of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe on Saturday. The nonprofit group Library Friends held the book sale to raise funds to buy gasoline for the book mobile, which has now been regularly serving Kagman and Koblerville.

Master plan eyed for alternative industries

A master plan for each of the four alternative industriesagriculture, aquaculture, call centers and edu-tourism-will be developed to "put into action" the results of the two-day 2009 Economic Restoration Summit.



liable transportation to complex government permitting and licensing processes and unstable laws and regulations-to develop each of the industries and help resolve those.

logistical challeng-

es-from lack of re-

See story on Page 2

US economy frames debate over temporary work visas

By TERESA WATANABE (C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

As U.S. employers flock to apply for foreign worker visas this week, their international hiring practices are facing heightened scrutiny and the threat of greater restrictions amid a recession that is throwing millions of Americans out of jobs.

Among other things, the four

master plans will specify the

The annual competition for

85,000 temporary work visas for foreign computer technicians, engineers, university educators and other skilled professionals opens Wednesday, and in recent years has drawn twice as many applications as spots available.

But this year, immigration attorneys are predicting that the economic slowdown will result

See ECONOMY on Page 4

16,000-plus alien workers sent home in past 3 years

n the last three years, the CNMI Department of Labor processed and completed the repatriation of over 16,000 alien workers, according to Labor deputy secretary Cinta Kaipat.



Labor is also making good progress in placing U.S. citizens in jobs, she added in her interim progress report submitted Wednesday last week to the Legislature on the imple-

See 16,000 on Page 4



PALM SUNDAY BLESSING

People line up as they await the blessing of woven palm leaves during yesterday's Palm Sunday Mass at Mt. Carmel Church. The Catholic Church celebrated Palm Sunday yesterday to commemorate the triumphant entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem in the days before his Passion. For many Christian churches, Palm Sunday, often referred to as "Passion Sunday," marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday.

CII rederal govt used Kep. Sablan in lawsuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE REPORTER

The federal government has used Rep. Tina Sablan in defending itself from the CNMI federalization, according to a CNMI government lawyer.

Braddock J. Huesman, counsel for Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Finance Secretary Eloy

government's lawsuit against Inos in Sablan's lawsuit, said it is clear that the federal government has already attempted to use Sablan in an effort to gain an upper hand in the litigation See FEDERAL on Page 4



2 MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Commerce Secretary Michael Ada, center, poses with Mount Carmel School students who participated in the two-day 2009 Economic Restoration Summit at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan. Also in photo is former Mount Carmel School principal Galvin Guerrero, third from right.





AT CONCLUSION OF ECONOMIC RESTORATION SUMMIT

A master plan for each of four alternative industries

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

A master plan for each of the four alternative industries—agriculture, aquaculture, call centers and edu-tourism—will be developed to "put into action" the results of the two-day 2009 Economic Restoration Summit, Commerce Secretary Michael Ada told summit participants on Friday.

"We don't want to have another summit in six months or two years and talk about the same things. We know what the problems are; we know our capacities, so now let's focus on these industries...How do we develop them?" Ada told *Saipan Tribune*.

Among other things, the four master plans will specify the logistical challenges—from lack of reliable transportation to complex government permitting and licensing processes and unstable laws and regulations—to develop each of the industries and help resolve those.

Asking the military to help subsidize the transportation of goods and people between the CNMI and Guam is one of the new ideas brought up during the summit that will help fast track the development of the agriculture and aquaculture industries, said Ada.

Businessman Anthony Pellegrino, one of the resource speakers at the summit, said the cost of shipping local products to Guam is driving up the cost of selling chilled fresh shrimp and fresh local produce to the military commissaries on Guam.

"I think that's one great idea brought up during the summit. Can we have the military subsidize some of the travel? That will help out tremendously not only for agriculture but the general travel and also for the military. They have logistical needs as well," said Ada.

Breakout sessions

On the second day of the summit, participants were divided into four groups to summarize the needed actions to develop each of the four alternative industries.

Galvin Guerrero, a former principal of Mount Carmel School, said developing an edu-tourism industry calls for the formation of an association among schools that take in exchange students, enticing major educational institutions in the U.S. like the University of California to establish satellite campuses in the CNMI; and holding summer institutes in the CNMI geared toward edu-tourism.

"As it is now, there's a lack of coordination among schools taking in exchange students," said Guerrero as he presented the edu-tourism group's findings.

Questions were raised as to how such proposed industry will deter fraud, and taking advantage of the marine monument declaration to encourage scientists and foreign students to come to the CNMI for education and research.

See MASTER on Next Page



MASTER

From Page 2

The aquaculture group, the findings of which were presented by Dr. Shaun Moss of the Oceanic Institute, talked about the need to form an industry association, along with identifying a niche market, establishing a surveillance program, and the development of an industry for marine ornamentals and not just focus on shrimp.

Businessman John C. Camacho, in presenting the agriculture group's findings, said agriculture as a viable CNMI industry can still be improved, and that the Legislature can help provide incentives to businesses.

Arthur Smith, president of consulting firm Management Analysis Inc., presented the call center group's findings, including the need for significant capital investment, an industry master plan, and tax incentives.

Report within 30 days

Besides the development of the four master plans, Commerce will also be releasing "within 30 days" a report on the results of the April 2 and 3 summit held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

Ada said the report will be presented to the Legislature and other government agencies.

He said the Legislature asked Commerce to draft legislation to help develop these industries but he said the department is not a policymaking body but a regulatory agency. Nevertheless, Commerce is more than wiling to help the Legislature polish any draft bill it has.

Businessman Chong Won, president of D' Won Company, said Anthony Pellegrino's presentation on agriculture during the first day of the summit was among the best.

"He's a doer, not a talker. And I think that Guam Lt. Gov. Mike Cruz's plan to include the CNMI in the buildup is a good idea," Won told *Saipan Tribune*.

At the conclusion of the summit hosted by the Department of Commerce and the Commonwealth Development Authority, in cooperation with Northern Marianas College and IT&E, Ada thanked the participants and organizers.

"I am pleased with the outcome of this summit and I like to thank everyone here for your support and participation. It demonstrates the need not only to talk about the problems... but actually being part of the solution," he said.

A lot of the information from the two-day summit will also be presented by Ada at the U.S. Department of Interior's Busi-

Teen arrested for DUI, eluding cop; 2 detained

A male juvenile was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol and engaging a police officer in a car chase, while his two teenage passengers were also detained for consuming alcohol.

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Lei Ogumoro said the 17-year-old boy, who was driving a pickup truck, was arrested for DUI, minor consuming alcohol, reckless driving, and eluding a police officer.

Ogumoro said two male passengers, both 19 years old, were booked and detained at the Department of Corrections.

Ogumoro said that, on Thursday at 1:25am, as a traffic DUI police officer was conducting highway enforcement on Beach

Road, he saw a white Toyota Tacoma pickup truck traveling north at high speed.

The truck overtook three other vehicles by using the center lane. This prompted the officer to chase the vehicle.

Ogumoro said the vehicle stopped outside a house in Garapan. The three teens were found inside the vehicle.

Patrol officers later arrived at the scene to assist the DUI officer.

After submitting to breathalyzer test, officers determined that the juvenile driver's breath alcohol concentration level was .17 percent, above the legal limit of .08 percent.

The 17-year-old boy was released to the Division of Youth Services. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

ness Opportunities in the Islands Conference in Hawaii set for April 6 to 8.

Ada said the CNMI may have been the first one in the region to break a pre-economic session into two—one for the private sector and the other for the public sector.

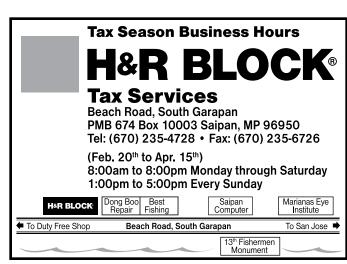
Sergio Loya, project manager of consulting firm Management Analysis Inc., presented the results of the pre-economic summit sessions on aquaculture, agriculture and edu-tourism on the first day of the summit, and on call centers during the second day.

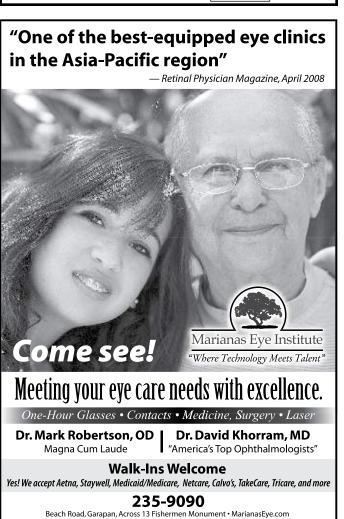
Guam Lt. Gov. Michael Cruz, the keynote speaker for the summit, called for a Guam-CNMI partnership to face the opportunities and challenges brought by the military expansion on Guam.

On the first day of the summit, the presenters included Arthur L. Smith, president of Management Analysis Inc., who talked about public-private partnerships; Dr. Shaun Moss of the Oceanic Institute, who talked about the opportunities and challenges in aquaculture; Anthony Pellegrino, who talked

about his business of supplying fresh chilled shrimp, fresh local produce and fresh fish to U.S. military commissaries on Guam; and Wayne Pangelinan, who talked abut edu-tourism.

On the second day, Larry Knecht of IT&E talked about his company's development and operation of the first call center in the CNMI.









BIRTHDAY BOY Happy 7th birthday to Diony R. Camacho Jr. Greetings come from Daddy, Mommy, Jonathan, Jennifer and family.

NUKU'ALOFA, Tonga (Matangi Tonga/PIR)—Four People's Representatives and one former PR who are facing sedition charges may now go to trial in the Nuku'alofa Supreme Court by May this year.

The five accused are People's Representatives 'Akilisi Pohiva, 'Isileli Pulu, William Clive Edwards, 'Uliti Uata and a former PR Lepolo Taunisila who were initially each charged with conspiracy to sedition in connection with the disturbances in Nuku'alofa on Nov.

Justice Andrew in a ruling on March 27 granted an application by the Crown to file amended indictments against the

Justice Andrew's decision dismissed an application by the accused to quash the indictment.

He ordered for the case to proceed to

This meant the accused are now

firstly charged with a joint charge of Party to a Seditious Conspiracy and as alternatives they face separate seditious counts of speaking seditious words as an individual on various dates.

This is with the exception of a separate count of sedition where all the accused are jointly charged as a part of a 'joint criminal enterprise' in relation to the alleged seditious speeches made by Pohiva, Pulu, and Uata in the Cabinet room on Nov. 16, 2006.

Justice Andrew clarified the primary count is the one of party to a conspiracy and the seditious words counts are laid in the alternative in the event that one or all of the accused are acquitted on the conspiracy count. Alternatives in the meaning that if they are acquitted of the primary charge of conspiracy jurors will then proceed to decide on the counts of sedition.

The congresswoman asked the court

Sablan asserted that the refusal of the defendants to disclose records identifying funding sources and contracts connected to the federalization lawsuit that has been filed on behalf of the CNMI people is a violation of the OGA.

In Fitial's and Inos' motion to withhold documents, Huesman said public records are exempt from disclosure by the plain language of the OGA if they are relevant to a controversy to which the government is a party and would not be available to an adverse party under pretrial rules.

"In the case at bar, all documents are exempt either due to attorney-client privilege or because they are not currently discoverable in the...litigation," he said.

quested are completely exempted by

the OGA because they are not obtainable as courtroom discovery due to the attorney-client privilege or because they will not lead to the discovery of relevant evidence.

The lawyer said Fitial and Inos ad-

"Moreover, the identity of the client, the amount of the fee, the identification of payment by case file name, and the general purpose of the work performed are usually not protected from disclosure by the attorney-client privilege," he said.

However, Huesman pointed out, the information contained in such documents may still be found to be confi-

He said remaining portions of the retainer agreement, contracts, and billing statements along with any documents and all records indicating payment of attorneys' fees are irrelevant for discovery purposes but relevant to the

4 Tonga representatives to face sedition trial More than 100 dead in Accused are charged with conspiracy over riots PNG malaria outbreak

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (PNG Post-Courier/PIR)— More than 100 people are believed dead from a malaria outbreak in the Poroma area of Southern Highlands.

According to sources, the epidemic, which started last December, killed many people and that had resulted in an all out war on the mosquitoes by the division of health in the province.

Southern Highlands health adviser Thomas Anda confirmed the outbreak but could not confirm the number of deaths, as a report on the outbreak filed by field officers could not be located yesterday.

He said if he could remember well, the deaths reported from health centers stand at around eight but that too could not be confirmed.

Anda told the Post-Courier in Mendi that the outbreak was in December but it was only reported two weeks ago.

The adviser said the provincial ad-

ministration had sent an investigation team and they reportedly confirmed an increase of malaria cases in the three health centers in the area.

Anda said they have sent two teams, one to spray DDT in the whole area and the other to administer drugs to every person with malaria to contain the outbreak.

The spray team comprising of 40 men would stay there for two weeks to spray the area while the drug administration team will be in the villages for three days to complete the dosage.

The health adviser said the health workers would be in every village and administer the medication.

They come from health centers in the Nipa, Poroma, catholic run health centers and Mendi.

Anda said K20,000 [US\$7, 000] from the health sector improvement program has been committed for it and they expect to get the epidemic under control.

FEDERAL

From Page 1

against federalization.

He said that forcing the CNMI to release sensitive information which the federal government is not entitled to contravenes the purpose of a law that exempts some documents from the Open Government Act.

Huesman cited a footnote in the U.S. government's motion to dismiss the CNMI lawsuit about Sablan's efforts to ask for certain documents from Fitial related to the federalization lawsuit.

In that footnote, the U.S. government stated that Sablan, a member of the CNMI House of Representatives and a member of the CNMI House Committee on U.S. and Foreign Relations, raised an issue concerning the legal authority of the Fitial administration to file its federalization lawsuit.

Huesman said the public records being requested by Sablan are either protected by attorney-client privilege or they are not relevant for discovery purposes. He asked the court to deny Sablan's request.

Sablan filed the lawsuit against Fitial, Inos, and acting Attorney General

Gregory Baka to compel the administration to disclose where it is getting the money to fund the lawsuit against federalization. The Superior Court recently removed Baka from the lawsuit.

to issue an order mandating Fitial and Inos to fulfill their obligations under CNMI law by making available the requested materials within 48 hours of the court's decision.

Huesman said the documents re-

mit that it is generally recognized that the communication of factual information is not protected by the attorney-client privilege, and thus, fee or retainer agreements are generally not privileged.

dential.

litigation.

Huesman asked the court to allow the documents to be withheld for OGA purposes until the conclusion of the lawsuit.

16,000 From Page 1

mentation of the Public Law 15-108. Kaipat was the author of the controversial labor reform law when she was a congresswoman.

She said the repatriation of 16,000-plus foreign workers in 2006, 2007, and 2008 was an enormous administrative task that involved completing labor cases, securing repatriation tickets, and making voluntary arrangements for departures.

"The department has done this work quietly and efficiently, working cooperatively with foreign workers and their representatives to accommodate hardship concerns and to honor requests for the timing of repatriation," Kaipat said.

Labor is not involved in any nonvoluntary departures as the Immigration Division handles deportations.

The deputy secretary said Labor has assisted Immigration by using its new automation system to generate quarterly overstayers lists.

The lists, when published, she said, assist in obtaining voluntary departures or correction of the records for those whose status entitles them to remain in the CNMI.

On hiring local residents or U.S. citizens, Kaipat said they initially reported only those U.S. citizens who came to Labor in person for assistance in finding a job.

However, she said, they have improved their website so that they can report on all U.S. citizens who find jobs with the assistance of Labor either through the website or through in-person assistance.

"Our new capabilities will allow us to review resumes posted online by persons who have not come to the office," Kaipat said.

Labor also added the capability for employers to more easily create lists of potential U.S. citizen candidates who have the qualifications for the job to be filled.

Kapat said that since October 2008, they have processed transfer requests for 615 foreign workers who have been displaced from their jobs by U.S. citizen hires.

"That is only one informal measure of our success because not every foreign worker who is displaced elects to request permission to transfer; some elect to be repatriated," she added.

ECONOMY

From Page 1

in fewer applications—and critics of the foreign worker program are vowing a renewed push to regulate it more closely.

In February, President Barack Obama signed off on a stimulus package that requires bailout fund recipients to hire Americans over foreigners with the temporary skilled worker visas, known as H-1Bs. Congressional legislation that would impose similar restrictions is expected to be introduced early in April.

"It's wrong to bring in H-1B workers if we have (American) workers here and it's more unconscionable when you have a recession ongoing," said Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, who is sponsoring legislation to require companies applying for foreign workers to pledge they tried to recruit Americans first, advertised on a Department of Labor Web site and took other actions.

But employers argue that foreign skilled workers complement rather than replace Americans, help create jobs and produce innovations that benefit the U.S. economy.

At Microsoft, for instance, 35 percent of the company's patent applications filed last year came from inventions by H-1B and green card holders, according to a blog posting Tuesday by Microsoft's general counsel, Brad Smith. Others claim that employers who can't hire the foreign talent they need here might ship the jobs overseas-depriving the nation of their skills and tax revenue.

"We totally understand the need to make sure U.S. workers are taken care of, but we want to make sure we don't take away the jobs that H-1B programs have represented in the past," said Robert Hoffman, a vice president of Oracle Corp. and co-chair of Compete America, a Washington, D.C.-based network of 100 companies, trade associations and universities.

The United States, which has im-

ported foreign workers for centuries, established the H-1B visa in 1990. The visa, valid for up to six years, requires foreign workers to hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent and earn the prevailing wage so as to not adversely affect Americans.

But the visa does not require that employers attempt to hire Americans first, unless 15 percent or more of their workers are on H-1B visas. Both the stimulus package and the Grassley legislation would require all employers to seek Americans first through advertising and other means.

The H-1B visa program has come under fire in recent months after a 2008 U.S. government study showed that about 20 percent of a sample of 246 applications were fraudulent or had technical violations. The fraud included non-existent businesses, phony educational degrees and false job descriptions. One employer who applied for a skilled worker visa for a "business development analyst," for instance, actually obtained it for someone to wash

clothes and maintain machines in a laundromat, the study found.

In February, federal agents arrested 11 people in six states and accused them of H-1B visa fraud and violating wage laws. Some employers were paying the required prevailing wage based on lower cost regions instead of the actual area where the visa recipient worked, prosecutors charged. The crackdown was led by U.S. immigration officials and the U.S. Attorney's office in Iowa, which accused the employers of displacing qualified American workers.

John Miano of the Programmers Guild, an advocacy group for U.S. technology workers, said that H1-B workers annually earn about \$12,000 less than Americans in part because some employers manipulate the definition of prevailing wage. He argued that there was no shortage of qualified U.S. computer programmers but employers wanted the cheaper foreign labor.

U.S. immigration officials vow to monitor visa petitions more closely with a fraud unit that has mushroomed from a dozen officers in 2004 to 650 today-more than one-third of them added in just the past year.

Many employers say that they could not keep competitive—or even solvent—without access to the global talent pool.

In California's Imperial Valley, where poverty is high and literacy levels low, hospital administrator William Moore said he depends on the Philippines to supply him with pharmacists and clinical lab technicians. His 65-bed El Centro Regional Medical Center, one of only two hospitals in the desert area, suffers from a perennial shortage of skilled medical personnel, he said. He is still waiting for visas for 20 needed nurses from the Philippines; to fill the gap he must hire traveling nurses from other states who command twice the pay of local or foreign hires, he said.

"This is not an inviting place to live, and it is very difficult to attract people to come here," Moore said. Speaking of foreign workers, he added: "We need these people badly."

Motion to postpone \$20K payment to Pellegrino nixed

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has denied the Department of Lands and Natural Resources' motion for a temporary stay of a court order that required DLNR to pay \$20,000 on or before April 1.

2009 to businessman Anthony Pellegrino and his Marine Revitalization Corp.

Wiseman pointed out that his third order—the subject of DLNR's motion for temporary stay-was a continuation of mandates that have been in place for more than four years.

"In view of [DLNR's] con-

tinuing chutzpah, manifested by the history of this case, it appears a reminder of the court's position in this matter is necessary," said the judge in his order issued Friday.

In his third order, Wiseman stated that in the event the order is not complied with. Pellegrino and MRC are authorized to seek further relief, including an order garnishing federal funds, appropriating portions of DLNR's budget, and obtaining a finding of contempt from the court.

Pellegrino established MRC to build the Outer Cove Marina in the mid-'90s. The goal was to turn it over to the government. Arbitrators concluded that the marina project was a viable venture at that time because Saipan has limited mooring space at the Smiling Cove.

A dispute between MRC and the government arose in 2001 after the government not only failed to bar commercial vessels from renting slip space at Smiling Cove, but also actively solicited commercial lessees.

iudgment of the court ordering it to pay more than \$5 million to MRC or Pellegrino. DLNR, however, did not comply with the order, resulting in the court's

DESPITE THE DELAY IN FEDERALIZATION ENFORCEMENT

Hopes to revive Dynasty's Guangzhou charters dim

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Hopes to revive some flights from the China market are dim at this time, according to a ranking official of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Tom Liu, Tinian Dynasty's hotel manager, told Saipan Tribune there is no plan at the moment to bring back the Guangzhou flights, which it terminated last year.

"Chairman [Michael Kwan] has not advised us of any plans to revive the Guangzhou flights at this time," he told *Tribune*.

Marianas Visitors Authority data show that the Guangzhou flights were terminated on Aug. 30 last year. It had 198 seats and flew to Tinian twice weekly with a load factor of 75-80 percent.

Liu said Dynasty is currently receiving two flights weekly from Shanghai, operated by Shanghai Airlines.

Each flight, he said, brings in 222 seats, shared equally by Century Tours and Tinian Dynasty Travel.

With the promised Guam military buildup and the delay in the enforcement of federalization in the CNMI, extending by 180 days the transition period before the exclusion of the China and Russia markets from the Guam-CNMI visa waiver program, there have been speculations that Dynasty might take advantage of the window to revive the flights.

Liu, however, shot down the idea, saying no new flights are expected to go to Tinian at this

"We have not heard of any plans to increase services," Liu said.

In an interview with MVA managing director Perry Tenor, he said the agency would convince the Dynasty to bring back the market to help the ailing tourism on the island.

MVA's early estimate of \$108 million economic loss in six months due to the exclusion of the China and Russian markets is expected to be averted because of the delay in federalization.

Due to budget constraints and federalization issues, the agency has reduced the promotional budget for two markets, which it intends to restore now that new budget for the agency provided an increase for the purpose.

Tenorio earlier disclosed that some 40,000 tourists from China and Russia are expected this year-31,000 from China and 9,000 from Russia.

Records from the MVA showed that NMI welcomed about 27,000 Chinese visitors and about 7,000 Russian visitors in calendar year 2008.

"Between now and November, MVA will continue promote and use this opportunity to increase visitors from these two source markets," Tenorio said, adding that MVA's Marianas Tourism Task Force will work closely with the Department of Homeland Security to seek "assistance" to continue travel from these markets.

It was earlier disclosed that it may take DHS 12 to 18 months before it can establish the necessary security protocols for China and Russia markets.

In last fiscal year, MVA recorded 202,041 arrivals from Japan; Korea, 116,710; China, 31,095; and Russia, 6,178.

three judgments, including the Feb. 24, 2009 order.

In the third order, Wiseman ordered DLNR to pay its \$5.65 million debt plus interest to Pellegrino and MRC. It included, among other things, a mandate that \$20,000 be paid to MRC on or before April 1, 2009.

Wiseman warned that he will not hesitate to promptly address DLNR's future noncompliance.

Last April 1, DLNR filed a motion for a temporary stay of the \$20,000 payment pending a hearing of motion to stay the third order. DLNR's motion, filed on March 26, 2009, is set for a hearing on April 9, 2009.

In denying the motion Friday, Wiseman said that, although DLNR filed a timely motion to stay on the major portions of the third order, which is set for hearing on April 9, the motion for temporary stay was not filed until the afternoon on the day that the \$20,000 payment was due.

"Astonishingly, DLNR waited until April 1, the due date of the payment, to make their request," Wiseman said.

Wiseman said the appropriate action would have been to file a stay after the first order was issued, or after the second order was issued, which mandated the same action that DLNR is not

"Instead, DLNR blatantly

attempting to postpone.

ignored the first two orders and now, only after another deadline has passed, wishes to further postpone the mandates of the court," he noted.

Last February, Michael Dotts, counsel for Pellegrino and MRC, told Saipan Tribune that in interest alone, the CNMI government is liable to pay Pellegrino and MRC a total of \$2.1 million.

Dotts said the court's \$5.65 million judgment that was issued in 2005 has been earning a \$540,000 a year in interest, for a total of over \$7 million.

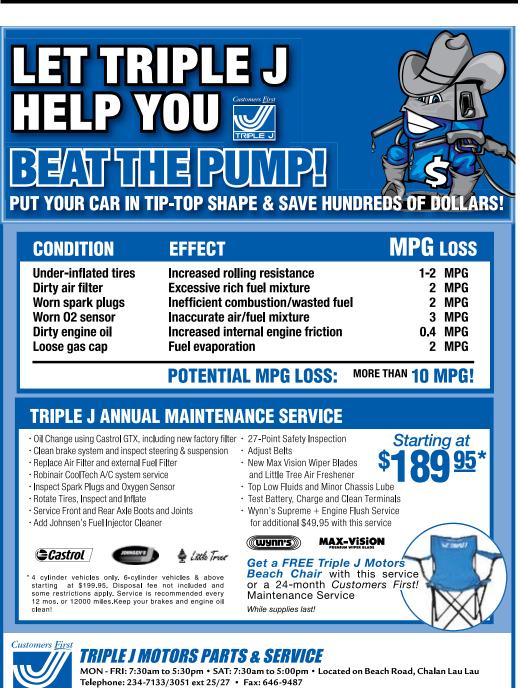
"You can think of it is like one government employee per month can't be hired because of this judgment," Dotts said.







· Glaucoma treatment · Diabetic eye care · Infant/children eye exams



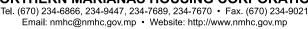
TRIPLE J Email: serviceadvisor@triplejsaipan.com or rsteele@triplejsaipan.com

PUBLIC ANNOUCEMENT

The Commonwealth Association of Retired Persons (CARP) will hold a meeting for all retirees and all members of the retirement fund on April 13, 2009 the Multi-Purpose Center Susupe at 6:00 pm. Agenda for the meeting includes an update on CARP and a discussion with Retirement Fund officials on the state of the fund and what we can do to save our retirement system. All retirees and all members of the fund are urged to attend this critically important meeting.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION





>@ NMHC @

IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, hereinafter referred to as NMHC, as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all of the rights, title, and interests of the following described real property situated in Garapan, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 003 D 16 (Formerly Block 1 Lot 16), as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat Number 003 D 00 dated February 19, 1971, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry on the 1st day of March, 1971, as Document No. 869, and containing an area of 1,022 square meters, more or less, together with the improvements and fixtures located thereon and therein and the appurtenances and all the rights, title, and interest of, in, and to the land lying in all streets, highways, and rights of ways abutting on or appurtenant to said premises.

Minimum Bid: The minimum bid for the property mentioned above in this notice shall be \$87,000.00.

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on **Friday**, **May 8, 2009**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
 Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, auctioneer and seller shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

 a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property in accepted.
 - such property is accepted.

 To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without To reject any and all bids.
- c. To reject any and all dids.

 <u>Bids:</u> Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-7951; Facsimile: 234-7950; Telephone: 234-7959; Facsimile: 234-7959; Facsim aipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-7455; Facsimile: 234-7256
- <u>Deposit</u>: Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) calendar days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and

interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC. Change of Terms: Auctioneer and NMHC reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

Inspection and No Warranty: Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact NMHC for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 2nd day of April, 2009.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO, Corporate Director

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

BETWEEN NOW AND 2011

'Still more chances for non-HQTs'

REPORTER

Classroom teachers who have yet to complete requirements to be certified as highly qualified still have time and many opportunities before the timeline of the federal No Child Left Behind Act mandate ends in school year 2010-2011.

Of the more than 500 teachers in CNMI public schools, 66 percent are already deemed highly qualified. A teacher is considered HQT if he or she has a degree, valid teaching certificates, and has passed the Praxis tests.

The remaining 34 percent, however, either lack certifications or are still taking the rigorous Praxis tests.

Board of Education vice chair Herman T. Guerrero admitted that after the 2011 federal mandate, they have yet to know what will happen to the non-highly qualified teachers in PSS.

"The board is optimistic that all our teachers will be HQT by the time this federal mandate expired. Between now and school year 2010-2011, there is still a lot more time and opportunities for them to complete all the standards," he said.

Of the three requirements, the passing of both Praxis 1 and 2 tests seem to be the standard that many non-HQTs have yet to comply with, Guer-

This summer, PSS will conduct institutes and crash cours-

es that would help teachers in their Praxis tests.

"I hope they will take advantage of these institutes because these are designed to help them meet their requirements. They must take every opportunity to bring growth and progress to themselves...because becoming an HQT is not only for PSS but for them as well," he said, adding that PSS is spending considerable amount to help teachers succeed in getting the require-

ments.

Act

The No

Child Left

Behind

quires all

U.S. pub-

lic schools



Guerrero

to fill all its classrooms with HQT personnel beginning 2011. The U.S. Department of Education gives each state the right to set its own requirements to meet the federal HQT mandate.

The Board of Education has set the three components of Praxis, degree and certificates as requirements to be considered HQT in the CNMI.

It adopted a salary compensation plan that aims to encourage personnel to achieve this goal of becoming highly qualified.

Adopted in 2006, this salary schedule provides a starting salary of \$27,000 for teachers who are not Praxis-compliant and provides up to \$47,000 to those who get the maximum qualifications.

Early this year, a new compensation plan was also adopted for school counselors-who must also be highly qualified by the time of 2011.

Guerrero said several testing periods will take place between now and 2011.

"Just keep on taking the tests...and come back if you didn't pass it the last time. I am sure there are still several testing periods before 2011," he said.

Guerrero, who has been opposed to amending the board's HQT policy, said standards in any profession are important because they allow one to gauge one's capability.

'One-year teaching contract to be renewed'

Saipan Tribune learned that the one-year teaching contract issued by PSS to non-HQT personnel will most likely be renewed, provided they show good faith efforts to meet the requirements.

Guerrero said it is the board's plan to help non-HQTs, not to displace them.

Even the system's employees who are under the immediate relative status, the vice chairman said, are being encouraged to work on their papers to prevent major upheavals in the end.

"We're helping non-HQTs ... and even the IR employees that we have," Guerrero told Saipan Tribune.

Opinion sought to resolve grievance at NMC

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com

The Northern Marianas College has failed to resolve the grievance filed by an instructor, citing that the concerns raised can only be addressed via a legal opinion that will be issued by the college's lawyers.

Saipan Tribune learned this Friday following a meeting that took place April 2 between NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez and the complainant, attended by other college representatives. It was also attended by the college's human resource manager.

The grievance, which centers a d m i n on two questions in the employee's contract, was filed March 20 at the Office of the President after lower level communications failed to settle the issue.

Based on college policies, a grievance must first be addressed between the employee and immediate supervisor, to the chairperson of the department, to the dean of the college, before it reaches the president's table.

Senate faculty president Frank Sobolewski, who was among the participants in the April 2 meeting, has confirmed that the grievance has not been settled at this time.

"This meeting was a meeting in order to try to resolve the grievance in accordance with Step C of NMC Administrative Procedure 4360, which is entitled "Employee Grievances not Related to Suspension or Termination," Sobolewski told Saipan Tribune, adding that the meeting took an hour.

He confirmed that the faculty member who filed the grievance raised two legal questions but he declined to elaborate on the

"contract revision."

Based on the college procedure, the



Fernandez

employee may be assisted by a representative of his/her choice. The employee in this case selected the faculty senate president.

When asked about the meeting, Sobolewski said he acted as best as he could as a counsel for the faculty member and felt that he did a very good job in defending the employee.

"At this meeting, I raised two legal issues related to the faculty member's grievance, and president Fernandez said that she would refer these two

legal questions to the NMC legal counsel for their opinion. I do not want to reveal these two questions because I am waiting for the legal counsel's opinion," he said, adding that the president's decision will be based on the legal counsel's recommendation.

Sobolewski said he felt that Fernandez treated the grievance of the faculty member in a "very fair manner."

NMC issues two-year teaching contracts to its faculty, with a provision stating that the president has the authority to not renew any employee's contract with or without cause.

For this reason, the faculty is pushing for indefinite contracts to ensure job security and quality instruction at the college. The proposed indefinite contract has no expiration but would not take away the president's right to terminate anyone, provided it is for a valid reason and cause. There are 33 instructional faculty at the college who are pushing for the proposal, which has been "killed" many times in the past.

NMC, according to former board member Agnes McPhetres in a recent open letter to the public, noted the high turnover rate of deans and instructors at the college due to current management practices.

VA announces recovery spending for veterans

Includes \$250 payment to eligible veterans eligibility for the \$250 payment.

125 slated to graduate from NMC next month

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA

The Northern Marianas College will confer diplomas and certificates to 125 students who are about to graduate next month.

The number is as of March 31, According to the Office of Admissions and Records, that number is as of March 31. It is still working with other graduating candidates to ensure and verify that they have met the requirements. The office said the figure may increase at the end of this month.

Saipan Tribune learned that of the 125 graduates, 29 will come from the college's bachelor of science in elementary education; 32 will complete the liberal arts program; business has three; nursing, 20; accounting, six; business management, 10; computer applications, three; criminal justice, three; hospitality management, three; early childhood education, 13; related services technician, one; and construction trades, two.

The graduating class of Spring 2009 recently elected their class officers at a meeting held Tuesday at Room A-9. NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez and other NMC officials were on hand to help with the election process. Jack Kiyoshi Jr. was chosen president; Edwin Correa Jr., vice president; Nerine Villagomez, secretary; and Christina Cruz, treasurer.

The officers will lead the graduating class in developing the commencement exercises with the selection of a theme, a keynote speaker, a venue for the graduation banquet, and a date and time for the graduation Mass.

Fernandez said she is extremely proud of this year's batch of graduates.

"The NMC family is extremely proud of the students who will be graduating in May. They have worked so hard and have made many sacrifices to accomplish their educational goals. We look forward to joining the graduates and their families in celebrating their momentous achievement at the graduation ceremony," she said.

NMC, she said, will be working with each graduate to provide them with whatever assistance they need for their transition to full time jobs, or for some, a transition into a fouryear university.

"We also hope that graduating students become active members of the NMC Alumni Association," she added.

WASHINGTON—The De- be used to oversee and audit partment of Veterans Affairs will spend more than \$1.4 billion as part of President

Obama's economic recovery

plan to improve services to

America's veterans. VA's Internet site—www. va.gov/recovery—provides current information about VA's work to deliver its portion of Recovery Act funds into the economy to benefit veterans.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act enables the VA to improve medical facilities and national cemeteries, provide grants to assist states in acquiring or constructing state nursing homes and extended care facilities, and to modify or alter existing facilities to care for veterans.

VA will dedicate ARRA funds to hire and train 1,500 temporary claims processors to speed benefits delivery to veterans and pursue needed information technology initiatives for improved benefits and services. Funds will also

programs, grants, and projects funded under ARRA.

As part of the President's Recovery plan, VA will also make one-time payments of \$250 to eligible veterans and survivors to mitigate the effects of the current economy. These payments will be issued as early as June 2009. VA estimates \$700 million in payments will be made to eligible beneficiaries as part of this measure.

To be eligible for the \$250 payment, VA beneficiaries must have received compensation, pension, dependency and indemnity compensation, or spina bifida benefits at any time between November 2008 and January 2009.

Also, beneficiaries must reside within the United States or Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, or the U.S. Virgin Islands. No application is necessary. VA will use its existing payment records to determine

Beneficiaries will receive their payments the same way they receive their monthly VA benefits (either by direct deposit or mail). VA will inform beneficiaries and the public when releasing the payments. This

payment is not countable in de- Railroad Retirement Board will termining eligibility for VA pension or Parents' DIC. The law allows one \$250 payment per individual. The payment is taxfree. VA beneficiaries who also receive benefits from the Social Security Administration or

be paid through those agencies, and will therefore not receive the payment from VA.

More details, including VA stimulus project timelines, will be available May 1, 2009. (PR Newswire)



HAPPY TO BE HERE

Young and adult members of the Tokyo-based Nihon Seishounen Ikusai Club, as well as martial arts aficionados on Saipan, pose for a group photo Thursday night at the Garapan Street Market. The visiting team from Japan performed martial arts demonstrations that included kata and breaking of bricks and baseball bats using their bare hands, to the amazement of the unusually big crowd at the weekly street market.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

NMC Charter Day Committee inviting vendors

The Northern Marianas College Charter Day Committee is inviting different agencies, businesses, clubs, and other civic organizations to participate in the upcoming Charter Day celebration. Organizations may purchase booth space for the following categories: food/ drink, specialty drinks (e.g. coffee coolers or pearl shakes), games booths, and retail (arts and crafts, toys, etc). The deadline to submit applications for booth spaces is on April 24, 2009. Booth space is limited, so applications should be submitted as soon as possible.

The Charter Day Celebration will be held on May 8, 2009 at the As Terlaje Campus from 4pm to 11pm. The event is one of NMC's largest and mostattended events. This year, the celebration will showcase a broad range of entertainment, including a variety of live band performances, the highly anticipated "Marianas Idol Contest," and cultural dance presentations.

You may reserve booth space by paying the \$100 one-time fee (which covers the tents booth and access to 110v electricity outlets). To get an registration form and for more information, contact Perry Inos Jr. at 234-5498 ext. 1253 or e-mail perryi@nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

NMC-CDI offers Framingham master's degree program

The Northern Marianas College Community Development Institute, a program under the Division of Community Programs and Services, is inviting individuals interested in advancing their education to consider the master's degree in

Education Program from Framingham State College. The next cohort is slated to begin in the fall. Applications can be picked up from the CDI offices starting April 7, 2009.

To pick up brochures or application forms or for more information, contact Carol Hosono at 234-5498 ext. 1253, e-mail carolynh@nmcnet.edu, or visit the CDI offices at Building P at the College's As Terlaje campus. (NMC)

PAWS sets public meeting

On Thursday, April 30, PAWS is having a no-host meeting at Coffee Care in Garapan. The meeting is open to open to the public. All those interested in volunteering for PAWS and saving the non-profit organization are encouraged to attend the meeting. Please RSVP to Bobbi Grizzard no later than April 29 at to bgrizzard@saipan.com or call 483-9464. Alternatively, you may contact 285-PAWS. (PR)

Chamber to host tax workshop

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a presentation by Deloitte & Touche for individual taxpayers (as opposed to corporate taxpayers). The workshop will be at 9am, Wednesday, April 8, at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce conference room. The workshop will cover topics including:

- Tax Savings Tips for 2008
- Highlights of individual tax benefits and breaks provided under the 2009 American Recovery and Investment Act

The cost for workshop attendees is \$10 per person for members and \$20 per person for non-members. The registration cut-off for attending this workshop is 5pm this Monday, April 6. Attendance is limited

to the first 30 individuals to register. (SCC)

'John Gonzales Live' **April schedule**

April 8, 2009 LIVE – Replays April 12 and April 13 at 7-8pm

- Highlighting Youth Leadership in PSS Youth Advisory Panel
- Rota High School Youth Leaders and PSS Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan

April 22, 2009 LIVE at 7-8 pm – Replays April 26 and April 27 at 7-8pm

■ Parents and Service Providers Discuss AUTISM Awareness in the CNMI

April 29, 2009 LIVE – Replays May 3 and May 4 at 7-8pm

- Current Issues with the Family Court
- Judge Kenneth Govendo and Family Court Administrator Patrick V. Diaz

All shows air on KSPN Channel 2. LIVE Text: 285-META; LIVE Call: 287-4230; Email: johngonzales@pticom. com. (PR)

KagES April calendar of events

April 8 PTA meeting at 6:30pm in the school cafeteria April 9-13 Students/Teachers Easter Break

April 14 Students/Teachers return to classes

April 17 Early Dismissal for all students at noon

April 17 Quarter Report Cards Distribution at 1:30pm-4:30pm

April 27 to May 1 SAT 10 Assessment for 3rd and 5th grade students

BPL moves to new office

The Board of Professional Licensing has moved its office to a new site located on Pohnpei Ct., Bldg. 1242, Capital Hill, Saipan,

MP 96950. The contact numbers are 664-4808/9 and the new fax number is 664-4814. (PR)

Income tax return deadline

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to inform all CNMI residents that the deadline for filing of the 2008 individual Income Tax Return is Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at the office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. Deadline hours for April 15, 2009 are from 7:30am to 4:30pm. (PR)

Corporate Challenge reset to May 17

Due to some conflicting events, the 2009 Corporate Challenge of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce is being rescheduled. After a meeting with the team captains for the companies that already registered, it was agreed that the event will take place on Sunday, May 17. Everything else remains the same. Register now and join the Chamber for a day of guaranteed fun and camaraderie. (PR)

Quarterly tax return deadline

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to remind all CNMI residents that the 2009 1st Quarter deadline for filing the quarterly tax returns is Thursday, April 30, 2009. The Division of Revenue and Taxation will be open from 7:30am to 4:30pm on Thursday, April 30, 2009. The office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation is located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. For more information, call 664-1000, 664-1043 Compliance Branch, or 664-1066 Collection Branch. (PR)

See COMMUNITY on Page 4

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 6, 2000

Distribution of Hillblom estate hits a snag

A New York-based journalist wants his share from the multi-million dollar estate of the late business tycoon Larry L. Hillblom after he sought an injunction yesterday from the U.S. District Court on Saipan. Myron A. Farber, a freelance writer who wrote an article about the fortune of the DHL founder published in the Vanity Fair magazine and once a co-producer of NBC Dateline, is demanding \$600,000 as payment for a bonus fee promised by one of the heirs. In a complaint filed with the federal court yesterday, he said the money is part of the agreement entered into with the lead counsel for Junior Larry Hillbroom and endorsed by his guardians Naoko and Marciano Imeong.

Tinian Dynasty, Mandarin Air to sign charter agreement

Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino and Mandarin Airlines will sign a charter agreement on April 11, 2000 in Taipei, a move which is expected to boost visitor arrivals in the CNMI. Mandarin Airlines will begin its Taipei-Saipan flight twice a week on May 1, 2000 using a B737-800 which can accommodate 158 passengers. While the CNMI has been getting regular visitors from Taipei, the number has not considerably increased due to lack of direct flight from Taiwan unlike in neighboring island Guam. Tinian Dynasty officials have been negotiating with Mandarin Airlines to fly here three months ago in a move to increase traffic and tourists arrival to the island-municipality of Tinian. A group of travel agents from Taipei helped Tinian Dynasty in closing the deal as they also pledged to market the destination.

April 6, 2001

Three-year limit issue divides Legislature

A proposed measure passed by the Senate yesterday suspending the implementation of the three-year limit law until 2005 is not likely to make it through the House of Representatives. Some members of the House were apparently as dismayed as business leaders when the Senate chose to act on what could be yet another "temporary" measure seen to turn off potential investors. The Legislature's upper chamber passed Senator Ramon S. Guerrero's proposal that will create a task force to study possible effects of the three-year stay limitation law to businesses in the Northern Marianas.

Budget deficit down to \$66M

The Tenorio Administration's three-pronged approach to reduction in the government's budget deficit is slowly paying off, as it managed to trim down the funding deficiency by a significant amount towards the end of financial year 2000. From more than \$80 million in 1998, the government's cumulative budget deficit is now down to \$66 million, thanks to the administration's tighter cost-cutting measures, economic revitalization efforts and passage of business-friendly legislation. "As a result of these efforts, government spending was reduced by about \$50 million from FY 1997 to FY 2000; the \$80 million deficit accumulated by previous administrations was reduced by \$14 million; and revenues for the first time since 1997 have begin to increase," said Mr. Tenorio.

April 6, 2003

'NMI is SARS-free'

The Department of Health on Friday assured all Northern Marianas residents that the Commonwealth remains free from the severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, which has already killed 85 people in Asia and Canada, and sickened 2,300 more in dozens of countries "We can assure you that the CNMI is SARSfree. There is no detected case. Don't believe the rumors," DPH epidemiologist Ed Diaz said in an interview. This came following accounts that a tourist billeted at one of the hotels on Saipan allegedly showed SARS symptoms. The hotel denied the speculations when contacted Friday afternoon.

House endorses tax amnesty program

The House of Representatives endorsed this week a legislative proposal seeking to grant a 90-day amnesty period for the filing of delinquent tax returns--a program that legislators anticipate to yield some \$4 to \$5 million in revenues for the government. Members agreed to adopt the House Committee on Ways and Means' report on House Bill 13-88, which recommended the legislation's passage. The bill's author, Rep. Oscar M. Babauta, is optimistic that HB 13-88 will make it past the House in the next session. If passed into law, the legislation would be the second tax amnesty program succeeding Public Law 12-51, which became effective on May 7, 2001 and expired 106 days later.

U.S. & CNMI IMMIGRATION LAW

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Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC Corner of Beach Road and Cpl. Derence Jack Rd., Garapan, Saipan

BRUCE **L. M**AILMAN is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and has provided immigration services in the CNMI since 1989

MAYA B. KARA is a former CNMI Acting Attorney General, Chief Legislative Counsel, Governor's and Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel and DOL Hearing Officer

United States Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands **Council on Developmental Disabilities** Bldg. 1312 Capitol Hill P.O. Box 502565



Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 664-7000 Fax: (670) 664-7030 Email: p.sablan@cnmicdd.org Website: www. cnmicdd.org

NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Council Members of the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities, through our Chairperson Marissa Guerrero, is hereby giving a notice that a Meeting is to take place on Thursday, April 9, 2009 at 9:30 AM at the Lilac Room, Saipan World Resort. The Council also chooses to exercise its right to enter into Executive Session at any point during this meeting

AGENDA

Preliminary Matters Roll Call

> Establishment of Quorum 4. Introduction of New Members
> Review and Adoption of Agenda: 12/12/2008

Council Membership Review Committee

Finance Committee State Plan Committee

Adhoc-Human Resources/ Policy and Procedures Committee

Adhoc-By Laws Committee Adhoc- Call-A-Ride Guidelines and Procedure Committee

Reports

III.

V.

VIII.

Chair **Executive Director**

New Business

Membership Training with OPA Old Business
1. DD Awareness Month VI.

Next Meeting VII.

Adjournment

oral comments regarding the agenda above

In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodation are requested to call the Council 3 days in advance at 664-7003. The public is welcome to submit written or

/s/ Marissa Guerrero, Chairperson

PAWS may shut down due to lack of volunteers

If the animal welfare group PAWS fails to recruit more members by the end of the month, it may be forced to dissolve the organization.

In a statement issued yesterday, PAWS president Katie Busenkell said they need more volunteers and members and if they fail to get new ones, they may be unable to prevent PAWS from permanently closing down operations.

In a bid to prevent this, PAWS, the island's only non-profit animal welfare organization, will be having a no-host meeting at Coffee Care at noon on April 30 to recruit new volunteers.

PAWS is currently a working partner of the United States Humane Society and the World Society for the Protection of Animals, a United Nations partner. With the help of these organizations, PAWS has obtained

dog safety and humane education materials for children K-8, dog catching cages, muzzles, leashes, and animal care items.

"Unfortunately, having these items or the money to purchase necessary items is not enough for us to be sustainable," said Busenkell. "We need volunteers—manpower—to really help the community and the animals of Saipan."

PAWS is currently reduced to

three board members and fewer than 30 general members.

"We cannot continue to operate with so few active volunteers. The demand for help is too much for three people to handle alone. So, the board has decided that if fewer than 15 people attend the meeting on the 30th, we will be forced to dissolve the organization."

In what Busenkell called a

"last ditch attempt" to save the organization, PAWS is meeting for a no-host lunch at Coffee Care on Thursday, April 30 at noon. All those interested in attending should RSVP no later than April 29th to bgrizzard@ saipan.com or call 483-9464. Alternatively, you may contact 285-PAWS.

Since the beginning of PAWS, the main focus of the

organization has been to help animals in need of homes and medical care. Over the years, the organization has offered the community help with veterinary costs, hosted low-cost spay and neuter clinics, found homes for unwanted animals, organized a humane education committee, hosted dog shows, and worked toward improving the lives of Saipan's people and animals by lobbying for an anti-cruelty statute and a humane animal shelter. **(PR)**

COMMUNITY

From Page 8

SVES registration schedule

San Vicente Elementary School Registration for School Year 2009-2010 is scheduled to begin on April 27, 2009 from 9am-12pm, and 1-4pm in the school registrar's office.

■ Kindergarten- April 27-May 01, 2009

■ First through Third Grade-May 4-8, 2009

■ Fourth through Six Grade-May 11-15, 2009

Registration requirements: Birth certificate or passport, health certificate, health/ accidental insurance, map of residential location, power of attorney/ legal guardianship (if mation, call 234-6247. (PR)

applicable), copy of report card, unofficial transcript with the address and phone number of the last school attended. (PR)

Sr. Remedios registration ongoing

Registration is now ongoing at the Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development Center for School Year 2009-2010. For more infor-

Sailors help refurbish recycling bins

Santa Rita, Guam—Joint Region Marianas sailors and civilian employees volunteered last Saturday to refurbish i-Recyle recycling bins at the Ambros parking lot in Anigua.

Non-profit organization i-Recycle is an aluminum recycling program created by seven local companies to promote recycling for financial benefit of the public schools. Each of the 40 public schools has one bin at their school. Cash generated from the cans collected by students goes back to the schools. The disbursements to the schools are based on the volume each school has generated.

Program administrator Peggy Denney says the bin refurbishing project will take several weeks, adding that volunteers help expedite the project. Sailors assisted by water blasting, applying rust treatment, and painting.

This volunteer work is part of the Navy's commitment to build and harbor strong and lasting relationships with the community and support the island through various community relations projects and events. (PR)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Tinian Labor Office, San Jose, Tinian Telephone no. (670) 433-3713 Facsimile no. (670) 433-3730



NOTICE OF HEARINGS ON TINIAN OF PENDING LABOR, AGENCY, AND DENIAL CASES

Monday, APRIL 06, 2009 first notice Monday, April 13, 2009 second notice

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Tinian Labor Office in San Jose, Tinian, on the date and at the time listed below. Please bring any documentation necessary to the resolution of your claims or defenses to claims against you. In particular, if you have wage claims or if wage claims are made against you, please bring supporting documentation. If you fail to appear, or fail to bring documentation, your claims or defenses may be dismissed, and an administrative order may be entered against you.

If your case has been resolved through a settlement, or you are a claimant and wish to withdraw your claims, please call the Tinian Labor Law Enforcement Section at 433-3713, or come to the Tinian Labor Office in San Jose.

Case No.	Employee(s) / Complainant(s)	Employer(s) / Respondent(s)	Hearing Date	Time
DC 07-03(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor	Abul Kashem & MD Abul Bashar/MD Enterprises	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
LC 07-014(T)	Dizon, Levita F.	Aldan, Vanessa P.	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
LC 07-11(T)	Abaga, Gener	Big Boys Marine Sports, Inc. (San Nicolas, Joey)	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
AC 06-01(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor & Bhoj Charmaker et. al.	Blue Pattern Corp.	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
LC 05-14(T)	Guillermo, Rose Marie G.	Blue Pattern Corp.	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
LC 05-08(T) & LC 05-270	Zheng, Jincan	Blue Pattern Corp.	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
LC 08-08(T)	Rodriguez, Riza P.	Borja, Danovan Sn.	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
AC 08-02(T) & DC 07-11(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor	Borja, Donicio/Editha & Cullalic, Alicia C.	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
AC 06-07(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor & Bishnu Devi Paudel et. al.	Castle Corp.	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
LC 06-03(T)	Toribio, Elizar A.	Castro, Lee Q.	May 7, 2009	9:00 a.m.
LC 06-10(T)	Shunfu Fang	Crisostomo, Melvin K.	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
LC 06-06(T)	Chun Yan Zheng	Evangelista, Ryan M.	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
LC 07-06(T)	Ballesteros, Petronilo R.	FPA Pacific Corp. and Power, Don	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
LC 04-07(T)	Li, Bo Fa	Green Star Co. Ltd. & Li, Bo Xin	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
LC 07-01(T) & AC 07-03	Versoza, Teresita I.	Hofschnieder, Julian U.	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
AC 07-13(T)	Director of Labor, Department of Labor & Decang, Rowena	K-Amusement Corp. & Ig Sang Kwon	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
LC 07-08(T)	Centano, Lynn B.	Kiyoshi, Teresa P.	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
AC 06-06(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor	Manglona, Connie M.; Chun Xi Li; Su Yu Chen; Jun Yan; Chen Dong Zhang; & Da Mei Xiang	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
LC 06-08 (T) & 06-142	Jin Sen Chen	Manglona, James K.	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
LC 08-02(T)	Cruz, Genina B.	Mendiola, Tanie Marie	May 7, 2009	10:00 a.m.
LC T01-11	Racelis, Vivian et. al.	Midas Corp.	May 7, 2009	11:00 a.m.
DC 07-08(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor	Panglinan, Emelita & Evangelista, Augustin B.	May 7, 2009	11:00 a.m.
DC 07-09(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor	Reyes, Brigida C. & Panis, Precila G.	May 7, 2009	11:00 a.m.
LC 07-11(T)	Dungo, Lorna C.	Sanchez, Tersita O.	May 7, 2009	11:00 a.m.
DC 07-06(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor	ShanShun Ju, Xiao Feng & Aquino, Yu Hua Jin/Momo Corp.	May 7, 2009	11:00 a.m.
A.C. 05-02(T)	Director of Labor, Dept. of Labor & Evalle, Irene et. al.	Strega Inc.	May 7, 2009	11:00 a.m.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

P.O. Box 824, Songsong Village, Rota MP 96951 Telephone no. (670) 532-9479 Facsimile no. (670) 532-9468



NOTICE OF HEARINGS ON ROTA OF PENDING LABOR, AGENCY, AND DENIAL CASES

Monday, APRIL 06, 2009 first notice Monday, April 13, 2009 second notice

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Rota Department of Labor Office in Songsong Village, Rota, on the date and at the time listed below. Please bring any documentation necessary to the resolution of your claims or defenses to claims against you. In particular, if you have wage claims or if wage claims are made against you, please bring supporting documentation. If you fail to appear, or fail to bring documentation, your claims or defenses may be dismissed, and an administrative order may be entered against you.

If your case has been resolved through a settlement, or you are a claimant and wish to withdraw your claims, please call the Rota Labor Office at 532-9479 (Debbie Salazar), or come to the Rota Labor Office in Sonsong Village

Case No.	Employee(s) / Complainant(s)	Employer(s) / Respondent(s)	Hearing Date	Time
DC 09-002(R)	Director of Labor	Atalig, Manuel	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 08-002(R)	Director of Labor	Eskuelan San Francisco	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 08-001(R)	Director of Labor	Manglona, Carina	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 09-001(R)	Director of Labor	Manglona, Joaquin	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 08-003(R)	Director of Labor	Northern Marianas Fisheries, Inc.	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 08-005(R)	Director of Labor	Sasakura, Daniel	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 08-006(R)	Director of Labor	Sasakura, Daniel	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 08-004(R)	Director of Labor	Smith, Don/Sook	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 09-009 (R)	Director of Labor	Maratita, Dominic C.	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
DC 09-010 (R)	Director of Labor	Maratita, Dominic C.	May 7, 2009	9:30 a.m.
CAC 08-005 (R)	Director of Labor	Manglona, Juan M. and Bepary, Jamal	May 7, 2009	10:30 a.m
LC 08-001 (R)	Director of Labor, De Quiroz, Lucena S.; & Guiling, Natividad P.	Sibal, Luzvismin L. dba Elizabeth Fashion & Isla Bonita	May 7, 2009	10:30 a.m
LC 08-005 (R)	Director of Labor and Santos, Ramir	Sibal, Luzvismin L. dba Elizabeth Fashion & Isla Bonita	May 7, 2009	10:30 a.m
CAC 07-016 (R) Director of Labor		Jackson, Eddie; Albastro, Mequias D.; & De Leon Cruz, Raymundo	May 7, 2009	1:00 p.m.
CAC 07-020(R)	Director of Labor	Manglona, Vincent and Benita dba VB Enterprises; Abriera, Clingen Bruce; Dulal, Md.; Castro, Concepcon T.; & Lami-ing; Benedicto B.	May 7, 2009	1:00 p.m.
CAC 08-016 (R)	Director of Labor	Manglona, Carina M. & Gabagat, Emilia E.	May 7, 2009	2:00 p.m.
CAC 08-018 (R)	Director of Labor	Manglona, Carina M. & Munar, Lucrecia E.	May 7, 2009	2:00 p.m.
LC 06-003 (R)	Bermeo, Jr., Alejandro S.	Manglona, Benita A.	May 8, 2009	9:00 a.m.
CAC 08-023 (R)	Director of Labor	Rosario, Felix F. & Gani, Osman	May 8, 2009	9:00 a.m.
CAC 08-011 (R)	Director of Labor	Taisacan, Annette M. & Nerizon, Mary Jean	May 8, 2009	10:00 a.m
CAC 08-006 (R)	Director of Labor	Villanueva, Felizardo & Abad, Alona DePano	May 8, 2009	10:00 a.m
LC 08-006 (R)	Dingson, Ferdinand	Barcinas, Lorenzo	May 8, 2009	11:00 a.m
LC 07-003 (R)	Feolino, Candilaria	Arnold, Spencer I. dba House of Fabric	May 8, 2009	1:00 p.m.
CAC 08-003 (R) Director of Labor		DL's Ent. (Manibusan, David) & San Antonio, Lawrence	May 8, 2009	1:00 p.m.
CAC 08-021 (R) Director of Labor		Bena, Jennifer & SNM Corporation	May 8, 2009	1:00 p.m.
CAC 08-007 (R)	Director of Labor	Maratita, Antonio Q. & Hossain, Jamal	May 8, 2009	1:00 p.m.

10 MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



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Lynn A. Knight PUBLISHER
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBEI

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

'We did OK'

he meeting in London of leaders of 20 top world economies produced a number of pledges of useful action to cope with the global recession. Increased economic coordination, a reaffirmed commitment to open trade and assistance to developing nations—these are all hugely important, if leaders follow through. And the conversations among the 20 countries are useful in and of themselves—the type of coordination that must accompany a tightly linked global economy. But the summit would have benefited from a greater focus on the U.S. priority of fixing the crisis we are in before moving on to protecting against the next one.

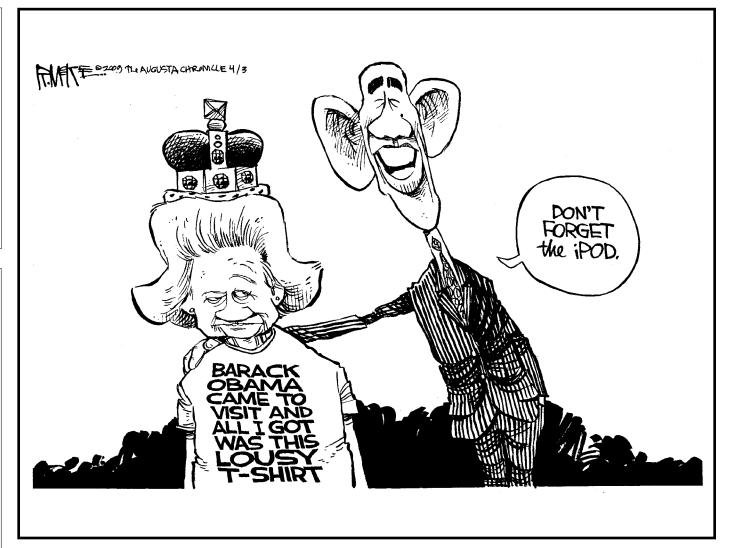
Entering the summit, there was a tension between the U.S. desire to focus on economic repair and France and Germany's interest in using the summit as a launching pad for a more coordinated financial regulatory regime. Perhaps President Obama could have pushed harder; on the other hand, he was handicapped by worldwide belief in U.S. culpability for the crisis and residual resentments of perceived U.S. high-handedness under the previous administration. Obama wanted to represent U.S. interests without appearing to bully other participants. Some of his counterparts, in turn, were happy to turn his dilemma to their advantage. One can only imagine the reaction if Obama had emulated French President Nicolas Sarkozy and threatened to walk out if he did not get his way.

So it was not a surprise when the summit birthed a communique chock-full of plans to increase and strengthen regulatory institutions but devoid of any commitment to further fiscal stimulus. It is a lost opportunity, nonetheless, that the leaders were gauzier in the area that matters most actions to restore economic growth—than on almost any other topic that was covered. Standing between the world and an economic recovery are a broken financial system and inadequate global demand. Extended discussion of how best to jump-start lending and clean up banks' balance sheets would have been beneficial as nations struggle to find the right model for cleaning up toxic assets. And even if no specific stimulus actions would be taken right away, a commitment to spend more if the global economy continued to deteriorate would have been progress. On the other hand, devising a system to ward off the next crisis and cracking down on tax havens fall into the category of crucial but less urgent.

Still, some important and positive policies came out of the meeting. The commitment to a free and open system of trade is particularly critical in the face of protectionist sentiments emerging around the world. The substantial increase in resources for the International Monetary Fund and for poorer nations will help countries in need and provide capital to help keep trade flowing at a time when it is expected to contract. Both policies reflect not only important measures to help the world economy but continued economic integration, instead of an isolationist step backward.

When asked how he thought he did, Obama said, "I think we did OK." That sounds about right.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post



Why we can and must prosper again: Part II

his week let us examine how to begin our road to prosperity. As I mentioned last week, we have many assets that we are not fully aware of or have not explored thoroughly. All the assets for success and happiness surround us. We have good people, beautiful scenery, fertile land, a bountiful ocean, and a huge market close by to sell to. Let us explore some of them.

First, we have good, friendly and kind people eager to work and eager to improve their lives. Despite the fact that over the years they have not been motivated, we must start motivating them now. A motivated populace can overcome many obstacles.

We must desire to develop strong work attitudes and a willingness to take risks. We must desire to regain control of our economy. We must desire to become small business owners. We must desire to become free from dependence on outsiders to do our jobs. We must desire to do jobs ourselves. Without that desire, there can not be improvements. All things start with a strong desire.

It has been reported that every year we export about \$165 million to the home countries of our nonresident workers. Isn't this a major drain on our economy? Consider how that large amount of money circulating in our community could benefit all of us.

The economists tell us that based on the theory of the multiplier effect this \$165 million will circulate about nine times as it is passed around. Imagine having \$165 million X 9 = \$1.48 billion extra money circulating every year! See what we are throwing away yearly because we prefer to have others do our work! When will we learn?

The time is fast coming when we will have to be independent. Thus a strong-willed and determined populace is the first step to prosperity. Prosperity will never come to us from the outside. It must be created from inside and from our hard work. When we change our attitudes, we change the world!

We must start motivating ourselves by studying how prosperous countries succeed. What have they done and are doing to be successful? Let's study the positives and negatives they have experienced on their road to prosperity. Let us copy their good points. As we do, we will notice that very few of them have had natural resources that created their prosperity. Prosperity has always been created by its educated and hardworking citizens. The road to success is a joint-effort by all of us. No one should be left behind.

We must begin by operating our own businesses. We must set up training situations to foster opportunities to do so. We must become a nation of shopkeepers and skilled tradesmen. We must make it happen. If we fail to understand the importance of having a trained and skilled workforce, we will really feel the pain in the near future.

Turn and walk down to the beach with me. As we stand here watching the waves lazily roll onto the shore and slide back into the ocean, notice what we have done to the coastline. What once was a clean beach flowing out into deeper water is now overrun with sea

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



grass. This is both unsightly and makes swimming in it a slimy feeling. How did we allow this to happen?

We have ruined miles of otherwise perfect beach front. As a result tourists have only a few remaining areas where they can swim or sunbathe in comfort. Sad to say, this situation is getting worse everyday. Soon we will have no beaches for tourists or for ourselves to enjoy. Why do we continue to desecrate our God-given natural beauty? Does anyone care? Why aren't we cleaning this up?

If we are to increase tourism, we must reclaim these beaches. We must proudly show miles of pristine shoreline and beaches with clean blue ocean waters. Tourists should be able to stop wherever they find such a beach and simply swim or sunbathe and enjoy its quiet beauty. After all, why come to a tropical island when its beaches and ocean are polluted and unsightly?

Another asset we have is beautiful islands that we can sell as paradise for tourism. We have the ingredients for making our three islands attractive to tourists. The secret to success in tourism is to find a niche. Let us not try to emulate what other places do. Instead of creating another concrete jungle as many other places are doing, let us improve the beauty of our islands and create a romantic and pristine paradise—a true escape for the tourists. All of us dream of going to a tropical island. Let's really create that feeling for the tourists.

Remember our tourists come here to escape the cold climate and pressure of work. Also they lack beaches at home. A beach reminds all of us of a special place that we feel attracted to. By offering clean sandy beaches and clean ocean to swim in, we do not need amusement centers or other distractions. One of the main reasons tourists come here is to escape from their environment and a desire to capture the allure of a tropical island.

This blue ocean also can be the home to a highly profitable business in aquaculture. Many species of fish can be grown in tanks and in protected areas along the coastline. The market is almost insatiable for fish. We have clean and protected pockets in the ocean where a thriving industry can be started.

Drive along the shores of Saipan, Tinian and Rota away from the main areas. There are many pockets in which aquaculture could be cultivated. This activity takes individuals with strong desires to

See WHY on Next Page

The Saipan Tribune welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor

Please participate in this month's islandwide cleanup

Two and one half years ago, the Beautify CNMI campaign put together an event called "1020 on 10/20." We challenged 1,020 people to spend a few hours on October 20 doing something to make these islands a better place to live and visit. Over 3,380 locals, contract workers, government workers, business owners, elected officials, and students heeded the call and spent the morning of Oct. 20 picking up litter off roads and beaches, painting over graffiti, and planting trees. Our collective efforts were impressive.

If my records are to be believed, that year the Coastal Resources Management Office teamed up with the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance to remove 380 lbs of trash from Tank Beach. The students at Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary removed 500 lbs of trash from the beach behind their school. The Division of Environmental Quality cleaned up the area north of the 13 Fishermen Memorial and planted several dozen coconut trees. They removed 280 lbs of trash. All told over 9,120 lbs of litter were removed from the 32 cleanup sites adopted in 2006.

A second islandwide cleanup is being planned for April 17, 2009, as part of the Commonwealth's celebration of Earth Month. The concept for this event is similar to what we did with "1020 on 10/20." We are asking community members, business owners, and

government agencies to spend up to two hours enhancing the areas around their homes, businesses, and offices.

Several organizations are helping us organize this cleanup. The Rotary Club of Saipan, Marianas Tourism Education Council, and Division of Environmental Quality are the lead coordinators. The Marianas Visitors Authority is donating \$1,500 for the purchase of plastic bags, rubber gloves, and paint supplies. They will be available for pickup at DEQ later this week. DEQ has also pledged to use their trucks and staff to pick up and transfer all garbage to the Lower Base transfer station, which Department of Public Works will be keeping open late to accommodate us.

Additionally, Governor Fitial has agreed to allow *all* Executive Branch agencies to participate in this islandwide cleanup during working hours. More information on their participation should be forthcoming from the Governor's Office and the Division of Environmental Quality.

I humbly invite you to join us in this year's islandwide cleanup. You can adopt a spot, either your favorite beach, a tourist attraction, or the road in front of your home, business, or office, or you can join another group at their cleanup. A list of all of this year's adopted spots can be found at http://beautifycnmi. blogspot.com. Simply contact the coordinator for that location and tell them you want to join.

If you would like to adopt a spot this year, please call me at 285-6462 or Joe Kaipat at DEQ at 664-8500 or email me at angelovil-lagomez@gmail.com. I will send you the one-page sign up sheet and help you with your adopted spot's logistics.

These islands are our home and if we don't take care of it, nobody else is going to do it for us. The Beautify CNMI campaign has always belonged to the entire community. I will often say, "Everyone is a member of Beautify CNMI, even if they don't know it yet." This campaign has always been one of the people and by the people. When we didn't have money for garbage bags, somebody has always donated them. When we needed volunteers, somebody has always given us their time. With this cleanup, we are asking for your help one more time.

This cleanup comes right around the time of the third anniversary of Beautify CNMI and I'm looking forward to this event launching us into a successful fourth year. Again, I humbly ask you to participate in this year's islandwide cleanup. Participate with your family, your co-workers, or your classmates, but please participate.

Angelo O'Connor Villagomez Volunteer, Beautify CNMI

A simple change

Many people say that legislators, the governor, and other elected officials have not done their jobs adequately and the people of the CMNI should blame them for their mistakes. Well, it is not their fault that we are facing these crises in our government; it is actually our fault, the voters. We are the ones who should be blamed. The political efficacy in the CNMI is minimal. We have developed a culture of voting for our families rather than standing up for ourselves and making the right decision for our future. The political culture in today's society is not about who our family is, it's about who can a make a major difference in our society. In order to have an effective government, it is important to have an ideal person capable of representing the people. The voters must also be aware about why they are voting for that candidate with a purpose rather than to acknowledge him or her as a relative.

For example, I was reading a full-page ad in the *Saipan Tribune* newspaper a couple of days ago. I am sorry to say this, but 90 percent of the ad explicitly states the candidate's family including those who are deceased. This is ridiculous and discreditable for the people of the CNMI. Why do we measure people based on who our relatives are? This is insane; we must stop that culture and learn something more ideal and significant to benefit the CNMI. Instead of talking about who our relatives are, let us consider having adequate ads that will encourage the people of the CNMI to vote for the candidate based on his or her goals, accomplishments, and strategies to improve our government. The people must understand that this is not about family; this is about our government and for the sake of the future generations.

Perhaps the most sufficient way to be elected is to organize public forums, show the community that you deserve to be in office through the work you have done, and organize a debate forum. This is more cost-efficient and educationally productive for the community. Another disgraceful and wasteful strategy is organized parties for campaign support. Usually the people would attend campaigns just for the food and drinks, which is hilarious. Do not be cheated by these kinds of candidates who do ridiculous things which seem like bribery and do not let yourselves be fooled; it is part of their devious plans to steal your vote. It is best that we make them realize they should work *smarter* before the elections.

Joel Tudela *Dandan, Saipan*

Stop the planned Marpi homestead!

I've been off-island for 10 weeks. By far the most calamitous event that has taken place during that period—and indeed, as I've discovered on my return, is ongoing—is the total destruction of a huge hillside of what had been scenic, unspoiled, environmentally productive Marpi land near Suicide Cliff. That area has long been considered the last piece of natural rural countryside on Saipan—to be treasured and protected as haven and native habitat for local species, as well as for its tranquil beauty—offering a welcome contrast to the jumble and busyness of developed island areas.

The land is allegedly being cleared to rid it of unexploded ordinance, so the rules affecting the Environmental Protection Agency's "Brownfield" program apply. With no cows that I know of having lost their lives due to unexploded ordinance in that area, one wonders in the first place how and why that particular piece of land was chosen for Brownfield clearing—and why now?

Under EPA rules, Brownfield-cleared areas are to be returned to their former natural state once the clearing has been done, but here, the intent appears to be that once the clearing is complete, the area will be used for homesteads. Wasn't the homestead program supposed to be suspended until the whole idea could be re-evaluated?

One asks again, why this area, so visible to every tourist visiting Suicide Cliff? Can anyone point to a homestead area on Saipan that is not at least a partial eyesore? Why is the CNMI deliberately creating another one in so conspicuous a spot?

There is no power nearby. There is no water. There are no sewer

lines. In fact, the biological assessment report for the area reveals that of the four "soil map units" identified on the project site, three indicate that "available water capacity is low," and that the "soil unit is unsuitable," "poorly suited" or "only moderately suited for home site development." Moreover, in two of the four map units, the assessment reveals that "the underlying limestone does not properly filter the effluent from septic tank absorption fields."

Particularly in light of these problems, where is the money to come from to provide the necessary homestead infrastructure? What hardships will homesteaders be subjected to, having to live at such a distance from stores, schools, government offices, all the amenities? How soon before auto repair shops, laundries, momand-pop stores clutter the landscape in addition to the incomplete and deserted homestead sites the homesteads breed?

And what effect will all the additional traffic from school buses, garbage pickup trucks, water delivery trucks—not to mention the commuters—have on the roads, on the ambience, on the tourists, on the many people who now use the Marpi area as it was intended: for enjoyment, for recreation, for peace and quiet?

The powers that be need to put a stop to this project at once! It is a shameful embarrassment of poor planning, poor policy, poor practice that serves no one, but rather hurts us all.

Ruth Tighe

Tanapag, Saipan

'Marianas buildup'

I really enjoyed the article "Marianas buildup, not Guam military buildup." I was excited for two reasons. I was in the Marine group 50 years ago as a young Marine. We were stationed in Japan at South Camp Fugi. After six months the entire group was moved to Okinawa. Now 50 years later, they are moving to Guam. The second reason is that since I am familiar with these Marines and with Guam and Saipan, I intend to return to Guam and work to help the Marines get acquainted with the islands.

Of most interest to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is that Marines need a place to spend a weekend or a short leave. The perfect place is the CNMI. Sapain has room to roam for them to explore the former Marine battlefield as I did when I first came to Saipan. I found a spent rifle shell casing on Tank Beach and I stood there with it in my hand and wondered if that bullet had killed someone. We learned many

things from the street battle that nearly leveled Garapan. I learned street fighting tactics and went through a demolitions course. Also, Tinian has the beautiful casino and Rota has the resort and golf course, among other things.

I plan to teach until December and then return to Guam to work toward the above goals. My wife is a graduate of UOG and she is excited about it too. We plan to spend at least 6-8 months in the CNMI and Guam and then return to Arizona for the rest of the year to visit our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

I think it is a great idea to utilize both Guam and the CNMI for the Marines.

Franklin Keiper Mayer, Arizona

WHY

From Page 10

succeed and who are willing to be risk takers. But the end result is very rewarding.

Driving around the islands of Rota, Tinian and Saipan, acres and acres of untilled land remain. For years we have been talking about growing food and selling it locally as well as exporting. But to date this activity still remains talk. If we truly want to become the food basket to ourselves, to Guam as well as to the rest of Asia, it is doable. In fact this activity has now begun and will develop within this year.

It is not my intention to explain all the possibilities that are available to us to become prosperous again. However it is my intention to stir up our desire to help ourselves. Repeatedly I keep mentioning about all the opportunities right under our feet. We should rely on foreign investors to a certain extent. I have no problem with them, but to think that they will solve the dilemma and restore our economy is a myth. Only hardworking and trained citizens can do that. You and I must do that!

This past week I attended the Economic Development Conference. Many good ideas came forth. Sources of funding were identified. Sources of technology were cited. Four major industries were identified. They are agriculture, aquaculture, call centers and educational tourism. These are a beginning. Many of us got all fired up

about doing things to spur the buildup of the economy. But will we follow through after all the rhetoric dies down?

The future lies in our hands. How we mold it will determine the nation we become. As stated above we have all the assets for success and prosperity. And we have the people ready to start working. It is us who determine how we will utilize them. There is no secret formula for succeeding. It is only through hard dedicated work from all of us.

Let us part with this quote from Kahlil Gibran from his book *The Prophet*:

Work is love made visible. And if you cannot work with love but only with distaste, it is better that you should leave your work and sit at the gate of the temple and take alms of those who work with joy.

12 MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage:

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Mostly cloudy in the morning then becoming partly cloudy by noon. Isolated showers East winds 15 to 20 mph

▼77° ▲86°

Guam and Rota Partly Sunny

Palau

Yap

Chuuk

Pohnpei

Kosrae

Majuro

Auckland

Hong Kong

Los Angeles

Melbourne

New York

Honolulu

London

Manila

Miami

Osaka

Paris

Pusan

Rome

Salem

Seoul

Tokyo

Washington, DC

Beijing

Micronesia

Showers

Sunny

Showers

Showers

Sunny

Showers

Sunny

Sunny

Rain

Showers

Showers

Partly Sunny

Showers

Showers

Partly Sunny

Rain

Sunny

Cloudy

Sunny

San Francisco Mostly Cloudy ▲ 72 ▼51

Sunny

Rain

Thundershowers ▲ 70 ▼49

Partly Sunny ▲ 71 ▼ 41

Mostly Sunny ▲68 ▼47

Around The Globe



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Fast winds 15 to 20 mph

▼77° ▲86°

▲86 **▼**75

▲86 **▼**77

▲87 **▼**77

▲88 **▼**79

▲86 ▼75

▲90 **▼**76

▲86 **▼**76

▲69 **▼**56

▲79 **▼**52

▲72 ▼66

▲ 76 ▼69

▲57 ▼39

▲ 77 ▼54

▲89 ▼76

▲59 **▼**46

▲88 ▼62

▲55 **▼**41

▲65 ▼46

▲65 ▼51

▲70 ▼48

▲61 ▼40

▲ 60 ▼ 40



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▼76°

▲86°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼76°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°

170

Guam-Narita

4:10pm 7:00pm Daily NW 73 NW 81 3:55pm 6:55pm Daily

NW 099 5:00am 7:35am Daily

NW 078 8:20am 1:30pm

DEPARTURES

CO9597 11:50am 12:25pm 1.7

CO9317 5:00am 5:50am Daily

11:50am

12:30pm

9:20am

1:20pm

1:20pm

4:20pm

7:20pm

7:30pm

10:20pm Daily

Daily

Daily

Daily

1,7 via Rota

2,3,4,5,6

2.3.4.5.6.7

Daily

Saipan-Rota

Saipan-Guam

CO9313 8:30am

CO9603 3:30pm

CO9605 6:30pm

CO9599 9:30pm

NW 075 4:55pm

Saipan-Narita

CO9597

CO9601

Saipan-Osaka

OZ 119 4:00am 6:40am 1.4.6

Guam-Osaka NW 79 4:45pm 7:35pm Daily

Saipan-Nagoya NW 078 8:20am 11:05am Daily

Guam-Nagova NW 23 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily

OZ 606 3:20pm

Saipan-Incheon OZ 604 2:10am 6:00am OZ 604 2:40am 6:30am 2.3.4.5.6.7 OZ 119 4:00am 11:25am 1,4,6 via Osaka

7:00pm

Daily

Saipan-Busan OZ 608 3:20am 6:50am 1,4,5,7

Saipan-Shanghai FM 844 2:50am 5:40am 2.6

Rota-Guam CO 9597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1,7

Guam-Palau CO 953 7:40pm 8:40pm 1,7 CO 893 5:50pm 6:50pm 3,5

Palau-Manila CO 893 7:35pm 9:10pm

Guam-Manila CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 3,5 via Koror CO 933 8:00pm 9:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:50am 1,2,4,6,7

Nagoya-Manila NW 71 8:40pm 11:55pm Daily

Incheon-Hongkong OZ 721 9:20am 12:00pm Daily OZ 723 7:45pm 10:35pm Daily

10:50pm 5,7

Narita-Manila

7:00pm 10:55pm Daily

OZ 7173 8:00pm

ARRIVALS

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 12, 2009

Rota-Saipan CO 9598 3:25am 4:00am 5.6 **Guam-Saipan**

CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am 1.2.3.4.7 CO9598 2:30am 4:00am 5.6 via Rota CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily 10:20am CO9600 11:10am Daily

CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily

Narita-Saipan NW 076 10:15am 2:40pm Daily NW 077 6:25pm 1:20am+1 2.3.4.5.6.7 NW 100 8:45pm 1:10am+1 Daily

Narita-Guam NW 74 9:45am 2:20pm

Daily NW 82 10:30am 3:10pm Daily

Osaka-Saipan OZ 120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 3,5,7

Osaka-Guam

NW 80 10:30am 3:00pm Daily

Nagoya-Saipan NW 077 9:00pm 1:20am+1 Daily

Nagova-Guam

NW 24 10:00am 2:30pm Daily

Incheon-Saipan OZ 605 9:00am 2:20pm

Daily 07 603 7:40nm 1:00am+1 7 OZ 120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 3,5,7 via Osaka OZ 603 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607 9:00pm 2:10am+1 3,4,6,7

Shanghai-Saipan FM 843 7:15pm 1:50am+11,5

Guam-Rota

CO 9598 2:30am 3:00am 5.6

Palau-Guam CO 954 2:30am 5:25am 1.2 CO 892 2:35am 5:30am 4,6

Manila-Palau

CO 892 10:10pm 1:50am+1 3,5

Manila-Guam CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 3,5 via Koror

CO 934 11:10pm 4:40am+1 Daily PR 110 10:10pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7

Manila-Nagoya

NW 72 6:30am 11:05am Daily Hongkong-Incheon

OZ 724 12:30am 4:50am Daily OZ 7183 12:45am 5:05am 1,4,6 OZ 722 1:30pm 5:45pm Daily

Manila-Narita NW 2 7:45am 12:40pm Daily

ETD

ETA Frequency

4:10pm

Daily

Daily

Daily

Daily

Daily

Daily

Daily

1:00pm 1:10pm

2:30pm 2:40pm

4:40pm 4:50pm

5:40pm 5:50pm

6:00pm 6:10pm

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

FRE 115

FRE 117

FRE 119

FRE 121

FRE 123 *

FRE 125 *

FRE 124

FRE 126

Airline	ETD E	TA Frequ	ency
Guam-R	ota		
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Sa	ipan		
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-I	Rota		
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Gu			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-R			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Sa	•	- 0-	D ::
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-l		0.00	D.:II.
FRE 400 Rota-Gu	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRF 400		7:15 pm	Daily
Saipan-1	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
FRF 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRF 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRF 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRF 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**

4:00pm

FRF 102 7:05am 7:15am FRE 104 7:50am 8:00am Daily FRE 106** 8:20am 8:30am FRE 108** 9:00am 9:10am FRE 110 10:00am 10:10am Daily FRE 112 11:05am 11:15am Daily FRF 114 12:00pm 12:10pm Daily FRE 116 1:30pm 1:40pm Daily 3:00pm FRE 118 2:50pm FRF 120** 4:20pm 4:30pm Daily FRE 122** 5:00pm 5:10pm Daily

6:05pm 6:15pm

6:20pm 6:30pm

WAKE SAIPAN **GUAM** MAJURO

PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2009

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A dissipating shear line extends west-southwest from 25N174E to 18N152E. Extensive cloudiness and scattered light showers are found along and up to 200 miles northwest of the boundary. A trade wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Yap within 100 miles of a line from 9N130E to 5N140E. This area includes Palau. Trade wind convergence in the Marshall Islands is producing scattered showers near Kwajalein and Majuro within 50 miles of a line from 9N159E to 8N165E to 8N170E to 10N176E.

7	ides	
Saipan Harbor	Al Date of	
5:43 AM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
11:43 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
5:03 PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:45 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset 6:09 AM Today 6:30 PM Tuesday 6:08 AM 6:30 PM Wednesday 6:08 AM 6:30 PM Thursday 6:07 AM 6:30 PM Friday 6:06 AM 6:31 PM

Moon	rise/Moor	set
Today	3:30 PM	3:25 AM
Tuesday	4:24 PM	4:07 AM
Wednesday	5:17 PM	4:46 AM
Thursday	6:11 PM	5:25 AM
Friday	7:04 PM	6:06 AM

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

next day's edition.

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Garapan, Saipan

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■ ISLAND SNAPSHOTS

PICTURES

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related ■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday. Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, grant-

ing of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community. ■ SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRÁVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organiza tions, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- otos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures. ■ Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of
- 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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- Log on to the internet at

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Letters to the Editor

Un' Bachet Na Peskadot

Author's Note: This is a story of a blind uncle who fished in the lagoon from early evening 'til dawn. I thought it's nice to share it. MVB (now MVA) picked it up years ago and used it as a feature of a unique experience.

Deste brinabuña, hagas munanañgo gi halom rubentasion Saipan yan kontodo Mañagaha. Megai na guihan kinine`ña pareho ha` para uson i gima sino checho` familia yan linahyan. Sige mona ha dimimoria sagan difirientes klasen guihan.

Paire na peskadot deste antes ayo na sainahu. Kontodo sagon mañahag yan atulai todo ha dimemoria. Este siha na tiniñgoña sige ha fanague famaguoña siha. Kontodo otro siha manhoben man-eyag ginen hagas man-paire na peskadot.

Todo peskadot nu`i kumomprende sustansian halom tase, siempre i primet kineni maseñala para si guelo, konrespeto. Este na mañan peskadot todo man-paire prumaktitika. Tatnai fatta este na respetu piot gi man-amko siha na peskadot.

Lao dispues bumachet i sainahu. Mampos triste gi primet biahe `nai ti siña esta man-lie`. Sige man-hasso hafa i ha fafana` yan kao siña humuyoñggue` pumeska talo. I chinatsagaña ti chinatsaga para guiya. Manago` na umapolu botiña gi kanton tase `nai sumasaga. Gi un` minachom atdao, humuyoñg ya sige ha pogsai i botiña para entalo Susupe yan Oleai.

Ha dagao i añkla gi rubentasion yan i inai. Ha gotde i katnada gi haguit ya ha tutuhon umetupag. Tulanoche mañgone`mafuti, satmunete, gadao, sas yan otro siha guihan. Dumeskansa gi tatalo`pueñge sumena. Ha yuyute ñganan hinegsa`gi un`bandan bote kulan pugi. Dispues chumupa antes de u tutuhon talo umetupag.

Gi todo hinanaoña, mampos na chatsaga` na u dimalas sa` bachet yan inutet i sainahu. Lao todo kareraña tatnai huhuñgog na aksidiente, abag sino maliñgo. Megaiña besis `nai mehna ke dimalas. Silensio gi todo kinalamteña entalo `nai humuyoñggue estake u fatto tatte.

Hu faisen haf taimano na siñague pumeska lao bachet yan haf tuñgoña amano na direksion ha fapoposgue. Ha esplika gi taiguine

"I pañgpañg tase gaige gi sanlago gi mattiñgan. I otro pañgpañg gaige gi chepchup tase. Hu e`ekuñgog pañgpañg napun dikiki `an hihotyu gi pantalan. Sige hu pogsai adumididi estake libreyu pumogsai katan.

"Hu ayeg lugathu hihot yan i mattiñgan antes baihu yute` i añkla. Hu tutuhon umetupag esta`i `nao i oran `las dose. Dumeskansan ñaihonyu pot para bai` sena. Dispues sigeyu talo umetupag.

"Gi biradan peska, hu e`ekuñgo atban Gima Yuus Chalan Kanoa `sino un` gayu gi sanlichan. Señat na matto esta chagchag chatagmag. Hu tutuhon tumulosyu luchan para iya hame".

Manmatto i famaguoña ma-ayudaye i amko. Magonaf i guihan siha ya mapreparaye amotsaña. Dumeskansa esta`i pupueñge talo. Estague`un` estorian bachet na peskadot. Si Yuus Maase`!

John S. DelRosario Jr.

As Gonno, Saipan

'Land is the basis of culture'

To Sen. Frica Pangelinan: We are disappointed and dismayed with your statements before the Saipan Chamber of Commerce that local culture "is a myth." This, in our opinion, is highly disrespectful of your fellow Chamorros and Carolinians, your constituents. Land is the basis and the root of culture and tradition is precious and significant in value and meaning in terms of our identity as Chamorros and Carolinians.

What have you done, senator? Why is it that since you were elected into office you had not done anything to help our people? Please enlighten us with the many laws you authored and had passed benefiting our indigenous people.

In our view you have done nothing but support self-interest agendas and an administration that will go down in our history books as the one that drove our own people to greener pastures abroad, endangered public services, and led our people into poverty.

While you live a high standard of living, you continue to insult and make a mockery of the less fortunate individuals and families who are now struggling from decades of incompetence, corruption, and self-interest agendas of elected leaders.

Rather than sitting around wasting taxpayers' time and campaigning to abolish Article 12 you should be drafting legislation to instill stringent protection of Article 12 for the sake of our future generations.

The only change needed in our homeland is to get rid off incompetent lawmakers who no longer represent our people.

Gregorio Cruz Jr.
TAOTAO TANO

The tyranny of the economic

ed Arriola, when he was still a deputy at Public Health, was at a planning symposium I attended and the conference panel quickly deteriorated into a discussion on budgets and available grants. We were supposed to confer on what we needed to address in the health field, but before we got to articulate a vision of our community's physical well-being and the abiding contradictions in implementing the vision, we bogged down on the availability or scarcity of grants, and the oppressive demands of funding compliance.

Being the new kid in town, I squeaked my humble mousiness and inquired if we could, perhaps, reverse the process of our deliberations. Wouldn't we engage in broad, free-wheeling, comprehensive visioning first? Could we check our intuition and our experience on where the contradictions are were we to pursue the vision? Would we not want to create practical proposals to address the concrete challenges that impede or bar anyone from realizing the vision rather than just resigning to the perennial excuse of "lack of funding"? Then, we can design strategies and tactics that would implement the proposals and confront the contradictions, concretizing any mission statement of the vision.

Mr. Arriola was candid enough to admit that, yes, the stated process in all the agencies begins with the brainstorming of vision elements, and the issue of budgets and finances is dealt with at the level of implementaries, of strategies and tactics. But it was convenient to short-cut the process, Ned added, by focusing on the available grants from funding agencies, and tailoring the service delivery provisions at the local level to the requirements of the funding source.

It was thus a *déjà vu* when I attended the pre-summit forum for the private sector before the full-blown two-day Economic Summit in response to the stimulus package passed by Congress in support of local level economic recovery. The group was quickly herded into three groups to consider the feasibility of promoting aquaculture, establishing call centers, and identifying alternative industries for the Commonwealth.

The chief facilitator conceded that the government wants to utilize the funding from the stimulus package on improving infrastructure that would attract investments. This is consistent with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy's intent. Of course, this just begs the question: What investments would attract investors? That was what the private sector antennae was to declare but, of course, being a quadrant of D.C., the Commonwealth's dependence on the sneezes inside the beltway pretty much determine the hiccups of our economic planners.

The current "bread and butter" of the Commonwealth economy is the visitor industry. The Economic Restoration Summit added aquaculture (with its off-shore, nearshore, and on-shore technologies developed elsewhere), agriculture (food production particularly for the military and the tourism sector), call centers (to serve English-speaking markets) and alternative industries (e.g., English language learning for the captive Chinese-Korean-Japanese markets). "Restoration," of course, is a misnomer since the garment industry is the only thing that may be restored, happily an unlikely occurrence.

What we need is an authentic economic development plan that is not pro-forma response to funding agencies' requirements but a real reflection of local people's perceived needs, expressed sentiments, and felt intuitions. Saipan is but a 5-by-12-mile is-

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



land with less than 70,000 people, yet we have no mechanism to activate a broad-based participatory conversation on how we may map out our continuing existence and survival. Focus groups gathering for conversations this year, desirable in their flexibility and composition, are nevertheless, highly politicized and are thereby suspect of partisan political agenda.

That we are a predominantly "republican" population is also evident. By this, we mean that in the decision-making process, we elect representatives to do the policy-making for us, and we expect them to design programs and implement projects for our general well-being. The economy in our rhetoric is outside the purview of governance, ideally left to the undulation of supply and demand.

We aped the republican form of governance from Uncle Sam that created the system when it took three months to get from the West Coast to the Potomac. The image of a free market economy is our favorite illusion. There is no such thing; the invisible hand has always been that of the businesses influencing legislative mandates.

Direct democracy has always been a possibility for the Marianas, if not the whole of Micronesia, but since we inherited patronage politics from elsewhere, and being elected to an office had been considered a "high honor and privilege," the bloated pyramidal structure of governance fitted our social and cultural requirements. That has changed. The elected office is no longer privileged status but public service, accountable to democratic standards. Prosecution of a Lt. Governor is not the persecution of a public servant; it is the public's exercise in holding one accountable to public standards!

We often read pundits write about how our economy has been grossly if not corruptibly mismanaged. Perhaps, our moralism, or ideology blinds rational assessment. Our economy has been very well managed, thank you; in fact, it has been too well-managed. It served the interest of the investors! The value pursued was on return on investment. The economy, and this still holds true if the recent Economic Summit were to be used as an indicator, is out to serve the interest of the investors, hoping that the multiplier or trickledown effect would benefit cheap labor. Since collection of revenue is waived, nothing accrues to the general public except from the expenditure of labor in the production line.

The tyranny of the economic is the preeminence of Wall Street (accumulated capital in support of consumerism) over the realities of the Sabalu market. Food production in agriculture for local consumption is the only responsible industry worth pursuing, otherwise, we depend on the value of the politicized homestead, and adhere to the religion of food stamps, for our sanity and survival. That *taotao tano* and *taotao tasi* does not a local economy make!

My bad, and about that bonus...?

By JOHN KENNEY

SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

he fire was not my fault. And to my knowledge, it was never proved conclusively that the lit cigarette and scented candles on my office desk were the cause.

Yes, I was asleep, but maybe let's try to look at the positive part of this and the fact that I was working late. Why my pants were off also remains a mystery. The fire marshal said that it was nothing short of a miracle that I wasn't killed, though he intimated

in passing that the fact that I was profoundly drunk helped.
Why were pornographic Web sites up at the time I was found by rescue workers? This is a crucial question, and one my attorneys are looking into. I'm not remotely interested in man-on-camel Latvian porn (is anyone?) and don't know why it was bookmarked. A practical joke by a mean-spirited co-worker? An intruder trying to frame me? These questions remain a mystery—a mystery I hope doesn't affect this performance review.

Once again, I'd like to apologize for the loss of the company's mainframe. I hate to say I told you so, but I requested a cubicle away from that room for many months, as I have a condition that requires natural light, and the basement is no place for me.

The Boeing account. I would agree with management that it is a tragedy that we lost the account. But to suggest that I was somehow responsible merely because I presented the "disasters" campaign is, to my mind, grossly unfair. I still believe safety is the No. 1 concern of many (most?) fliers, and the footage of airline crashes could have been powerful (and, in its own way, positive) for the company.

The phony news release. This also remains a mystery to me and my legal team. How an e-mail was sent from my computer to major news organizations saying the firm was changing its name to Penis Bros. is deeply confusing and frankly repugnant to me. Nor should

our CEO ever have been referred to as "Barbara Pantywaist." That's not his name, for one, and two, what does that even mean?

Why did I bring an untrained monkey to work on "Bring Your Child to Work Day"? Because I thought it would be funny. It wasn't funny. I rented the monkey that morning and had no idea the extent to which monkeys masturbate. I also have no idea how it got access to the main conference room. (If I may say, I honestly don't think we would have gotten that business even if the monkey hadn't done what it did to Mr. Takemoto.)

State and federal officials, as well as the SEC, have asked how I got access to the company's 401(k) plan and moved "massive amounts" (their words, not mine) to my personal account as well as into General Motors stock. Hackers? Computer-whiz kids? Yes, there is security-camera footage of me at my computer at precisely the time the transfers were made. Master-of-disguise hackers? Computer-whiz kids who look like me? I'm saying it's possible.

The gun thing. (I can't believe we're rehashing that.) For the 10th time, it wasn't my gun. I didn't know it was loaded. And I was joking with Phil when I said, "I hate your scum guts, and I'm going to kill you." A fluke that the gun went off. Six times.

You'll see in the attached self-evaluation that I have given myself a five (the highest grade), as well as drawing a small picture of Mohandas K. Gandhi, someone whom, had I lived during his time, I think I would have been close friends with, as I love walking, lightweight clothing, and I generally loathe the British. Knowing that our firm has accepted government money, I would happily forgo receiving a bonus now to take part in the program to reroute bonuses to offshore accounts.

In spite of these curious setbacks, I believe my performance this year merits an exceptional review.

Kenney is a writer in New York.

14 MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Threat to shut Boston Globe shows no paper is safe

NEW YORK (AP)—When it bought the Boston Globe for a record \$1.1 billion in 1993, the New York Times Co. added one of the nation's most acclaimed and profitable newspapers to its empire. But analysts say the 137-year-old Globe has been a money-loser in recent years, and the Times, now \$1.1 billion in debt, is threatening to shut down Boston's pre-eminent paper unless it gets \$20 million in union concessions. The threat to the Globe, announced Friday on the Globe's Web site, has shocked some industry insiders, who say it shows no one is safe. The Globe has won 20 Pulitzer Prizes and has been lauded for some of its work, including its coverage of Roman Catholic clergy sex abuse scandal.

Fannie, Freddie worker bonuses total \$210M

WASHINGTON (AP)—Mortgage finance giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac plan to pay more than \$210 million in bonuses through next year to give workers the incentive to stay in their jobs at the governmentcontrolled companies. The retention awards for more than 7,600 employees were disclosed in a letter from the companies' regulator released Friday by Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, the senior Republican on the Senate Finance Committee. The companies paid out nearly \$51 million last year, are scheduled to make \$146 million in payments this year and \$13 million in 2010. Fannie had disclosed that it plans to pay four top executives at least \$1 million each in retention payments that run through February. Freddie has yet to report on which executives are in line for the awards.

Agency says bailout will cost taxpayers more

WASHINGTON (AP)—Bailing out the financial sector will cost taxpayers \$167 billion more than originally anticipated, according to a Congressional Budget Office estimate. The original figure in January was \$189 billion, but it is now \$356 billion - \$152 billion more for 2009 and \$15 billion more next year, the CBO says in its March report updating the budget and economic outlook. The CBO raised its projection because yields have increased on securities issued by the bailed-out financial institutions under the \$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program. That means there will be an increase in the cost of the subsidy from the U.S. Treasury's purchase of preferred stock, asset guarantees and loans to automakers, the CBO said.

Prices for world's cheapest gas may be going up

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuela has the planet's cheapest gasoline: At 12 cents a gallon (3 cents a liter), it costs about 30 times less than bottled water. But falling oil income and sagging crude output could soon mean a pinch at the pump in oil producing countries like Venezuela, where hefty government subsidies have for decades guaranteed cheap fuel. Iran is already cutting back, while Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has revived talk of a price hike for the first time in 12 years - a politically unpopular move that two decades ago sparked deadly riots in Caracas. To spread wealth and buy support, many oil producing nations subsidize fuel for domestic consumption. Gasoline sells for as little as 39 cents a gallon (10 cents a liter) in Iran, 60 cents a gallon (16 cents a liter) in Saudi Arabia, and \$1.52 a gallon (40 cents a liter) in Iraq, where prices were ratcheted up following the U.S. invasion.

Realty Management Services launches new website

Realty Management Services, a Saipanbased affiliate company of Tan Holdings which manages a number of real estate properties on-island, announced the launch of its redesigned website.

The former site www.rmssaipan. com has now been changed to www. saipan-properties.com.

"We felt it was important to have an updated design and functionallyenhanced website in order to reassert the company's dedication to providing the best possible property management services and programs to their clients," said Puy Macario, general manager of RMS.

As a better way to highlight their commitment to customer service and satisfaction, RMS renovated their online presence, completely redesigning their previous website



and providing information in four languages: English, Japanese, Korean, and Chinese, to ensure penetration not only of

ON THE NET

CONTACT IFO

670-235-6527 or 6528

or email him at

www.saipan-properties.com

the local community but of the Japanese, Korean and Chinese communities as well.

"Our previous website was outdated, and did not completely serve the purpose of informing our audience on our company's services and the from scratch, property rentals/leases we provide. Much like upgrading to a newer, better apartment, we also upgraded to a better address-www.saipanproperties.com, which clearly speaks of what we are and what we offer," Macario added.

The in-house website development team of the CTSI Corporate office in Manila created the new website design for RMS that is sleek, sophisticated and functional; and most im-

> portantly reflects the company's position in its industry. www. saipan-properties.com gives virtual tours of the properties and offers infor

mation in English, Japanese, Korean, and Chinese.

"Moving forward, we will continue to enhance our online presence to get our key messages across that Saipan is a peaceful, beautiful and inviting place to stay for the long term, and that good real estate is available and accessible through RMS," said Macario.

RMS offers premiere apartment rentals on the Island of Saipan. Properties include Finasisu Terraces, Sunset View Terraces, Oceanview Terraces and the newly-renovated LNH Apartments. RMS also offers warehouse and office space rentals. For more information, or for a tour of the units, contact Macario at 670-235-6527 or 6528 or email him at puy macario@saipanproperties.com. (PR)

Unemployment soars to 8.5 pct.; 13 million jobless

puy_macario@saipan-properties.com

WASHINGTON (AP)—Unemployment zoomed to 8.5 percent last month, the highest in a quartercentury, as employers axed 663,000 more workers and pushed the nation's jobless ranks past 13 million. The hard times were only expected to get harder - a painful 10 percent jobless rate before long.

The current rate would be even higher - 15.6 percent - if it included laid-off workers who have given up looking for new jobs or have had to settle for part-time work because they can't do any better. That's the highest on record for that number in figures that go back to 1994.

"Even if the economy continues to show signs of improvement, businesses will cut jobs and trim fats to stay lean and mean," said Sung Won Sohn, economist at the Martin Smith School of Business at California State University, Channel Islands.

So far, the public has shown great hopes for the economic policies of new President Barack Obama. But those could fade quickly with more months of layoffs. In Europe for an economic summit, Obama called Friday's unemployment report a "stark reminder" of a need for action at home and abroad.

The recession may well end later this year - Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and many private analysts see that possibility - but rehiring historically doesn't get going until after an economic recovery is picking up steam. The jobless rate is expected to reach 10 percent by year's

The stock market generally bottoms out before a recovery gets under way, too, and stocks now have risen for four straight weeks.

The Dow Jones industrials rose 39.51 points on Friday after surging 216 points on Thursday and closed above 8,000 for the first time in nearly two months.

Small comfort to millions of laidoff workers. The Labor Department report underscored the recession's toll: a spike in the jobless rate from February's 8.1 percent and a net loss of 5.1 million jobs since December 2007, almost two-thirds of them in just the past five months. And economists say an additional 2.4 million

jobs will disappear through the first quarter of next year.

As the downturn eats into companies' sales and profits, they are laying off workers and resorting to other cost-saving survival measures that also hit employees, the report showed. Those include holding down hours and freezing or cutting pay.

"It's an ugly report, and April is going to be equally as bad," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com. "I couldn't see any rays of sunshine. Nothing.'

The average work week in March dropped to 33.2 hours, a record low. And nearly a quarter of the unemployed have been out of work for six months or more, the highest proportion since the steep 1981-82 recession.

Loan modifications rising; many don't pare payments

WASHINGTON (AP)—Though lenders are boosting their attempts to curb record-high home foreclosures, fewer than half of loan modifications made at the end of last year actually reduced borrowers' payments by more than 10 percent, data released Friday show.

The report, based on an analysis of nearly 35 million loans worth more than \$6 trillion, was published by the federal Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Office of Thrift Supervision. It provides the most detailed and broad analysis to date of efforts to stem the foreclosure crisis, which President Barack Obama is trying to combat with a \$75 billion plan to promote loan modifications.

The report helps explain why many loans are falling back into default after being modified. Many borrowers and consumer groups contend that the modifications offered by the lending industry aren't very generous, despite more than a year of public prodding from regulators.

For instance, nearly one in four loan modifications in the fourth quarter actually resulted in increased monthly payments. That situation can happen when lenders add fees or past-due interest to a loan and spread those payments out over the 30- or 40-year period.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the report found that loans were far less likely to fall back into default if a borrower's monthly payment is reduced by a healthy amount.

Nine months after modification, about 26 percent of loans in which payments had dropped by 10 percent or more had fallen back into default. That compares with about half of loans in which the payment was unchanged or increased.

"This new data shows that, in the current stressful environment, modification strategies that result in unchanged or increased mortgage payments run the risk of unacceptably high re-default rates," Comptroller of the Currency John Dugan said in a statement.





HUMANITIES COUNCIL **SUPPORTERS**

Vince DLG. Torres, of Torres Brothers LLC, presents a \$500 check to Humanities Council board chair Dr. Debra T. Cabrera and Council executive director Antonio V. Deleon Guerrero. The council will use this educational tax credit donation to support the Motheread Family Literacy Program and other upcoming public humanities programs and initiatives.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jon F. Bargfrede, president and CEO of the Bank of Saipan, presents Humanities Council board chair Dr. Debra T. Cabrera with a \$5,000 check at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. Also pictured from left are Deleon Guerrero, Motheread parent trainer Fred Camacho, and Motheread coordinator Viola S. Deleon Guerrero. The Council will use this educational tax credit donation to support the Motheread Family Literacy Program and other upcoming public humanities programs and initiatives.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 **15**

Nation

Police: 5 children, father die in murder-suicide

GRAHAM, Wash. (AP)—A father apparently shot to death five of his children, ages 7 to 16, at their mobile home and then killed himself near a casino miles away, police said Saturday.

Ed Troyer, a spokesman for the Pierce County Sheriff, called it a domestic violence situation and a murder-suicide.

"We believe they all died of gunshot wounds," Troyer said.

Police found the father's body early Saturday in his stillrunning car near the Muckleshoot Casino in Auburn, about 30 miles south of Seattle. He had apparently killed himself was left in the car, Auburn Police Sgt. Scott Near said.

Later in the day, Pierce County deputies checked the mobile home, which is about 20 miles southeast of the casino, and found four of the children dead in their beds and the fifth in the bathroom.

Neighbors in the Deer Run mobile home park, a neat, well-kept community nestled among towering evergreens, were shocked and weeping at

"How could something like this happen?" asked Mary Riplinger, whose kids were play-

with a rifle, although no note mates of the slain children. "Everyone's asking: Why did he do it? It's not right."

> The mother of the victims was not at home, Troyer said. Deputies were called to the mobile home after a relative stopped by and saw a child lying motionless on a bed through a window, but couldn't get anyone to answer the door.

> He said investigators believe the husband and wife were not estranged.

> "Clearly she's been very traumatized," Troyer told The News Tribune of Tacoma. "You kind of get hardened to seeing people who are killed because of their

own bad actions. But these kids died through no fault of their own. This is something you never want to see."

Authorities did not release the names of the family, but Troyer identified the dead children as four girls and a 7-year-old boy. Another neighbor, Dale Lund, told The Seattle Times

the 7-year-old boy who was killed played at times with his grandson and the boys shared the same school bus stop and attended the same elementary school together.

He said the dead boy played in his own yard most of the time.

"They pretty much kept to themselves over there," Lund



A Pierce Co. Sheriffs Chaplain Rick Bulman talks with three unidentified women Saturday, April 4, 2009, at trailer park near Graham, Wash., where the bodies of five children were discovered dead in their home Saturday afternoon.

Gunman 'lying in wait' kills 3 Pittsburgh officers

Fed indictment alleges new heights of corruption

CHICAGO (AP)—Rod Blagoievich's schemes and corruption stretch back beyond trying to sell a Senate seat, beyond hand-

ing out jobs to political donors and even beyond his first day in the Illinois governor's office, federal prosecutors say.

While he campaigned on a promise to clean up after the scandals of the previous governor, Blago-

jevich and a handful of political pals already were planning to

line their pockets and split the money after Blagojevich left office, according to a 19-count indictment.

> If true, the allegations show Blagojevich blew past the actions that put ex-Gov. George Ryan in prison and took corruption to new levels in Illinois.

> Ryan pressured state employees to contribute \$50 and

\$100 to his campaigns, while Blagojevich demanded \$50,000 and \$100,000 from companies simply wanting a chance to do business with the state, according to the indictment.

Ryan steered government money to friends who gave him gifts and vacations. Blagojevich tried to block money for sick children and students unless he got big political contributions, the indictment says.

"If the allegations are true, it is the epitome of hypocrisy. It's very sad," said Brad McMillan, a member of the Illinois Reform Commission appointed by the state's new governor.

ACROSS THE NATION

Bus accident kills 1, injures 27 in Sierra Nevada

Blagojevich

RENO, Nev. (AP)—A mountain resort's employee shuttle bus crashed on the main highway through California's Sierra Nevada on Saturday, killing a passenger and injuring 27 others, authorities said. The bus operated by the Resort at Squaw Creek veered off the road, "struck a guardrail and rolled several times" before stopping in a ditch along Interstate 80, about 20 miles west of Reno, said California Highway Patrol Officer Steve Skeen. Some of the 30 or so people aboard were thrown from the bus, Skeen said. One was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver suffered "moderate to major" injuries and was being interviewed by officers, he said. Kevin Romero, a spokesman for ambulance service REMSA, said 27 people were taken to hospitals in Reno and Truckee, Calif.

Obama makes pitch to IOC for Chicago's Olympic bid

CHICAGO (AP)—Chicago wasted little time Saturday reminding the International Olympic Committee that President Barack Obama really wants his hometown to host the 2016 Summer Olympics. From a video in which Obama extols the virtues of the city, to the short film on the city's history that features Obama's election night acceptance speech at Grant Park, it was clear the president is a key component of the bid. "I think he's an incredible asset," said bid strategist George Hirthler, adding that no American bid has ever had such a popular president - with such close ties to the bid city - in its public relations arsenal. Chicago is competing with Madrid, Tokyo and Rio de Janeiro for the games.

Maine lobster trap rope finds new use as doormats

ROCKLAND, Maine (AP)—Rope once used to connect lobster traps on the ocean floor soon will grace the entryways of people's houses. At a warehouse in this commercial fishing port, a steady stream of lobstermen arrived last week with pickup trucks and trailers loaded with millions of feet of colorful rope - blue, orange, white, green, red, purple, pink. All of it will be used to manufacture multicolored hand-woven doormats. A new federal regulation, designed to protect endangered North Atlantic right whales, prohibits lobstermen from using the floating rope to connect their traps because the whales can become entangled. So lobstermen are selling the rope to a nonprofit foundation. The Maine Float-Rope Co., in Waldoboro, plans to sell the Down East Doormats through its Web site and to stores across New England.

Texas judge's 100 drug cases to be reviewed

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—A prosecutor in Texas is promising to review about 100 drug cases that were presided over by a state judge who has been indicted on federal charges. A federal grand jury in El Paso indicted State District Judge Manuel Barraza this past week on four counts including mail fraud, wire fraud and lying to a federal agent. The indictment alleges the 53-year-old judge took cash bribes and asked for sex from defendants in exchange for his help in felony cases. District Attorney Jaime Esparza said that the cases Barraza dismissed will be reviewed to determine if justice was served. He told the El Paso Times that charges may be refiled in some cases. The state has suspended the judge from his \$140,000-a-year post. He is free on bail.

PITTSBURGH (AP)—A gunman wearing a bulletproof vest and "lying in wait" opened fire on officers responding to a do-

mestic disturbance call Saturday, killing three of them and turning a quiet Pittsburgh street into a battlefield, police said. Police Chief Nate Harper said

the motive for the shooting isn't clear, but friends said the gunman recently had been upset about losing his job and feared the Obama administration was poised to ban guns.

Richard Poplawski, 23, met

officers at the doorway and shot two of them in the head immediately, Harper said. An officer who tried to help the two also was killed.

Poplawski, armed with an assault rifle and two other guns, then held police at bay for four hours as the fallen officers were left bleeding nearby, their colleagues unable to reach them, according to police and witnesses. More than 100 rounds were fired by the SWAT teams and Poplawski, Harper said.

The three slain officers were

Eric Kelly, 41, Stephen Mayhle, 29, and Paul Sciullo III, 37. Kelly had been on the force for 14 years, Mayhle and Sciullo for two years each. Another officer, Timothy McManaway, was shot in the hand and a fifth broke his leg on a fence.

Poplawski had gunshot wounds in his legs but was otherwise unharmed because he was wearing a bulletproof vest, Harper said. He was charged with three counts of homicide, aggravated assault and a weapons violation.

As gunman's life fell apart, he took others'

BINGHAMTON, N.Y. (AP)— a citizenship class and killed

didn't like people picking on him for his limited English and once angrily told a co-worker, "America sucks."

It remains unclear exactly why Vietnamese immi- Won grant strapped on a

Jiverly Wong was upset over 13 people and himself, but the losing his job at a vacuum plant, Binghamton police chief says

he knows one thing for sure: "He must have been a coward."

Jiverly Wong had apparently been preparing for a gun battle with police but changed course and decided to turn the gun

on himself when he bulletproof vest, barged in on heard sirens approaching, Chief

Joseph Zikuski said Saturday.

"He had a lot of ammunition on him, so thank God before more lives were lost, he decided to do that," the chief said.

Police and Wong's acquaintances portrayed him as an angry, troubled 41-year-old man who struggled with drugs and job loss and perhaps blamed his adopted country for his troubles. His rampage "was not a surprise" to those who knew him. Zikuski said.



16 MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Asia

China urges restraint after N. Korea launches rocket



South Koreans watch a TV news program on the North Korean rocket launch at a train station in Seoul, Sunday, April 5, 2009.

BEIJING (AP)—China has called on all sides to maintain calm and exercise restraint following North Korea's launch of a long-range rocket.

A brief statement from the Foreign Ministry on Sunday said Beijing had noted the launch as well as the response from all sides concerned.

The statement said China hoped all parties would maintain "calm and restraint" and handle the matter appropriately. It called on all to work to jointly safeguard regional peace and stability.

China is North Korea's biggest source of economic aid and diplomatic support, and the statement said Beijing was willing to continue to place a "constructive role" in the matter.

North Korea fired a rocket over Japan on Sunday, defying Washington, Tokyo and other world leaders who suspect the launch was cover for a test of its long-range missile technology. President Barack Obama warned the move would further isolate the communist nation.

Liftoff took place at 11:30 ter the launch.

a.m. (0230 GMT) from the coastal Musudan-ri launch pad in northeastern North Korea, the South Korean and U.S. governments said. The multistage rocket hurtled toward the Pacific, reaching Japanese airspace within seven minutes, but no debris appeared to hit its territory, officials in Tokyo said.

The U.N. Security Council approved an emergency session for Sunday afternoon in New York, following a request from Japan that came just minutes after the launch

Freed UN aid worker leaves Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP)—An American U.N. worker abducted more than two months ago headed home Sunday, a day after he turned up unharmed alongside a road in western Pakistan with his hands and feet bound and pleading "Help me, help me."

John Solecki was discovered Saturday evening abandoned in a village some 30 miles south of Quetta near the Afghan border after his captors called a local news agency to tell them where to look, officials said. At one point, the kidnappers had threatened to behead him.

Mohammed Anwar, the own-

ASIAN BRIEFS

er of a restaurant alongside the main Quetta-Karachi highway, told The Associated Press that he found a bound Solecki ly-

ing in the

dirt near a

wall. An-

war said

he heard

a voice in

the gloom

saying



Solecki

"Help me, help me" in English.

Solecki, who headed the U.N. refugee agency's operations in Quetta, made no public comment. Police and U.N. officials

declined to discuss what led to his release.

U.N. spokeswoman Jennifer Pagonis said Solecki left the country on a special medical flight early Sunday morning after spending the night in a military hospital in Quetta.

"He seemed OK this morning," Pagonis said, adding that he was looking forward to being reunited with his family. She declined to offer further details.

Interior Minister Rehman Malik said Solecki would fly to Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan and then continue on to the United States.

said a total of 62 were pronounced dead.

62 migrants found dead inside truck in Pakistan

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—At least 62 people suffocated to death in the back of a truck packed with illegal migrants, and dozens were rescued unconscious after Pakistani police acting on a tip opened the vehicle Saturday near the Afghan border. Rasool Bakhsh, a senior police official in the city of Quetta, said the shipping container the truck was carrying entered Pakistan from Afghanistan and was headed for Iran. He said most of the victims were Afghans. More than 100 people were packed inside the 40-foot-long (12-meter-long) metal container, Bakhsh said. He said survivors were rushed to the hospital, many of them unconscious. Khalid Masood, another senior officer.

Report: Tibet reopened to foreign tourists

BEIJING (AP)—China has reopened Tibet to foreign tourists, state media said Sunday, almost two months after imposing a ban ahead of politically sensitive anniversaries. A group of 11 German travelers arrived in the regional capital of Lhasa late Saturday, the Xinhua News Agency said. The group was on a six-day tour, which would take them to a number of "key scenic spots" before leaving for Nepal, Xinhua said. China requires foreigners to obtain special permission to visit Tibet and routinely bars them from all Tibetan areas of the country during sensitive periods to keep news of unrest from leaking out.

World

Woman fires on police station in Israel

JERUSALEM (AP)—A woman opened fire on a police station in southern Israel Saturday before officers shot back and killed her, in an apparent Palestinian militant attack.

The shooting took place near the desert town of Beersheba, police spokesman Moshe Fintzy said. The woman fired at a paramilitary police post but did not hit anyone before she was gunned down, he said. Authorities have not yet identified the woman, but police said the shooting appeared to be a militant attack.

If so it would mark the second attack of the week and pose an early test for the new, hard-line government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Netanyahu has promised a firm hand against Palestinian militants and lowered expectations on prospects for peace.

On Thursday, a day after the prime minister took office, a Palestinian killed an Israeli teenager with a pickax and seriously injured a 7-year-old

boy in a rampage through a West Bank Jewish settlement.

Sporadic violence along the border with Gaza also threatens to re-ignite clashes after Israel's three-week offensive in the territory earlier this year.

Israeli forces shot and killed two militants who were approaching the Gaza border on Saturday, Palestinian medics and the Israeli military said.

The military said the two men were armed and Israeli forces entered Gaza and fired on them.

Europe praises Obama but pledges few Afghan troops



STRASBOURG, France (AP)—European leaders enthusiastically praised President Barack Obama's new Afghan strategy at a NATO summit Saturday but held their ground on a central disagreement and offered only military trainers and extra security forces for upcoming elections.

Violent anti-war protests that marred the alliance's 60th anniversary celebrations were a stark reminder that much of Europe has no appetite for the other, costlier half of Obama's Afghan equation: more combat troops.

"I am pleased that our NATO virtually frozen since the Russo- economic crisis.

allies pledged their strong and unanimous support for our new strategy," Obama said. "We'll need more resources and a sustained effort to achieve our ultimate goals."

As protesters battled police outside, NATO risked angering Muslims around the world by giving the post of secretary-general to the prime minister of Denmark, who fueled anger three years ago by backing a Danish newspaper's right to publish cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad. The 28 leaders at the summit also approved measures to repair ties with Russia-virtually frozen since the Russo-

Georgian war in August.

Afghanistan is seen as a crucial test of the power and relevance of the alliance, which was founded at the height of the Cold War to counterbalance the Soviet Union and now is struggling against a rising insurgency far beyond its borders.

The escalating war has highlighted doubts in Europe about the ability of NATO's 58,000 troops to stem the Taliban insurgency. Worries about casualties and costs have contributed to opposition to a conflict many Europeans see as an unnecessary distraction during economic crisis.

11 bodies found in Mexico, some with torture signs

MORELIA, Mexico (AP)— Eleven people were found shot to death around Mexico on Saturday, some bearing signs of torture and left with threatening messages emblematic of drug violence.

Four of the victims were found in a car in the western city of Apatzingan, along with a message threatening the Zetas, a group of hit men for the Gulf drug cartel. The message was signed La Familia, a drug gang battling for territory in

western Michoacan state.

Another slain man was found in the western port city of Lazaro Cardenas, also with a threatening message from La Familia to the Zetas.

A sixth man was found on a highway in the city of Morelia. He had been shot in the head three times and left with a T-shirt pulled over his head and his hands cuffed behind his back. A seventh was found shot to death in the town of Tacambaro

La Familia was once considered aligned with the powerful Gulf cartel, but it was named as a separate gang in a government list of mostwanted drug trafficking suspects released last month.

President Felipe Calderon's government has attributed fractures in the cartels to a military crackdown, saying the arrest of drug kingpins has set off internal battles for control that have led to Mexico's sharp surge in drug-related violence.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 **17**

Health & Fitness

Fitness tips for active people

By JEANNINE STEIN (C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Being on your feet all day has its pros and cons.

Muscles get a workout, joints and tendons stay limber through use, and, of course, there's the calorie burn. But it also can lead to sore legs, wear and tear on the back's discs, and poor posture from hunching forward when fatigued.

Even those folks achieving their 10,000 steps a day—doctors, nurses, waitresses, construction workers, hairstylists—still need maintenance. Repeating movement patterns every day (carrying trays, cutting hair) leads to underutilized muscle groups growing weak.

And don't think all that movement means you don't have to get your heart rate up. The body gets used to the same movements and amount of activity, expending less and less energy to get the job done. Doing more, and different, cardiovascular exercise can push the metabolism while strengthening the heart and preventing weight creep. Working out has another benefit, too: "Generally, stress is a part of people's job duties," says trainer Laura Christy of Meridian's Bodies in Motion, "so doing cardio helps their heart and stress levels as well."

We asked three trainers what they would recommend for those continually on the go.

Robert Reames

Personal trainer, member Gold's Gym Fitness Institute

Leg strength and endurance play a huge part for people who are on their feet all day. For leg strength, squats and lunges are good, but I've had great success with clients on the leg press (a machine in which weight is lifted with the legs while seated or lying down). On the leg

press, you're loading just your legs, so you can do it without as much strain on the back as you would if you were doing squats or lunges with weights.

If you're a beginner, get on the machine and get used to doing the motion with no weights. Make sure you can do it for two to four sets of 10 to 12 reps. Eventually you want to add weight that's a comfortable resistance, and challenging, but doesn't take you out of your form and cause you pain.

Also, make sure your feet are firmly planted (on the foot plate), with an emphasis on putting the weight on your heels. When bending your knees, don't go past 90 degrees or you'll overstretch your knees. Make sure the movement is controlled, and do two to three seconds on the up-and-down phase. If you have to go really fast to push the weight, then you're doing too much.

This exercise targets the quadriceps, hamstrings, back muscles and glutes—pretty much everything between the knees and the waist. Doreally train the legs well.

For leg endurance, you can get on any kind of lower-body cardio machine such as a treadmill, stair climber or elliptical trainer. If you belong to a gym, you can cross-train on a variety of machines, and you can also take it outside and run or do steps. The body thrives on variety-it makes you stronger and helps prevent injury.

For posture, standing cable rows give you core work while working large muscle groups in the back. Standing in front of the

Journal retracts diabetes study published in 2000

NEW YORK (AP)—A scientific journal is retracting a research paper published more than eight years ago that reported a gene therapy treatment had led to remission of Type 1 diabetes in rats and mice.

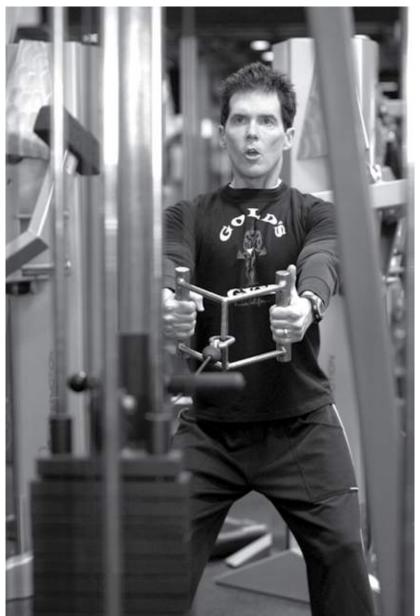
In its Thursday issue, *Nature* said the lead author of the paper—Hyun Chul Lee of Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea—and two other authors asked for the retraction because they could not reproduce the experiment's results.

Another author maintains the results are still valid and did not join in the retraction

request, the journal said. A fifth author is deceased.

In Type 1, or juvenile, diabetes, the body mistakenly attacks insulin-producing cells. Patients HONG KONG (AP)—The must inject themselves with insulin to survive. The researchers reported eliminating the disease in rodents by slipping into them a man-made gene designed to produce an insulin-like chemical.

The authors wrote at the time that the approach might be useful for humans. But diabetes experts told The Associated Press in November 2000 that it wasn't clear the treatment would work in people.



ing this twice a week will Robert Reams demonstrates the standing row, which works the back and biceps and helps your core.

machine, feet hip-width apart and knees slightly bent, grab the handle and pull it toward you, then release it, using a slow and controlled movement.

Do three sets of 10 to 12 reps. Also, when you're off the machine, make sure you're walking around the gym in optimum posture.

Interval training helps increase cardiovascular capacity and increases your ability to burn fat, so the body is prepared to do so much more. I'd shoot for two to three days per week, minimum.

Laura Christy

Regional training manager

ager, Meridian's Bodies in Motion, Los Angeles

and corporate fitness man-

People who move all day tend to have issues such as tight hip flexors, calves and hamstrings, lower lumbar (back) pain, core weakness and rounded shoulders—some of the same issues found in people who sit all day. Generally the most weak areas are the core, the quadriceps and the glutes, because they're not always firing all day.

So if we put people on certain pieces of cardio, it's going to reinforce tightening those areas, because they're doing the same movements they do during the and endurance. And if you feel posture will be different and it day. So calisthenics are good—

jumping jacks, jumping rope, scissor jumps, sideto-side stepping, knee pull-ups—movement exercises on different planes. It also breaks up the monotony while getting the heart rate up.

For the hip flexors, stretch the adductors (muscles on the inside of the thigh) by doing a diagonal lunge. Keep one leg straight while stepping, the other is out to the side diagonally. Keep the knee bent and under the torso. Hold for about 10 to 30 seconds, and switch sides.

Pain in the lower lumbar can come from having a weak core. If you're not activating your core muscles, then you tend to have rounded shoulders, which pulls the back forward and puts strain on those muscles. Practice exhaling, then inhaling. When you inhale, you engage your core, and it's a good, quick way to remind yourself to engage those muscles.

A good exercise for the core is a roll-down. Start by sitting on the floor, legs and arms extended forward, and try to reach past your toes. Sit up tall, then collapse your torso, as if you've been punched in the stomach, and your tor-

so forms a "C" shape. Begin to lie back, one vertebra at a time, extending the arms overhead, until you're all the way down. Exhale and reach up toward the ceiling, come up slowly, and reach forward again past the

This engages the abdominals and stretches the hamstrings and the calves and also engages the rhomboid muscles (in the back) , which are good for posture. Do this about five times. It's OK if you elevate your feet as you come up from the lying position—it just means that your core is weak. But eventually you'll increase your strength any pain in your lumbar region, will put you back in balance.

it means your abs are fatigued and you're done for the day. If vou continue, then your neck will start doing the work.

Erik Flowers

Personal trainer and co-owner of Body Builders Gym, Los **Angeles**

When I'm working with a client, I need to know where their head has been all day. Some jobs are done by rote—it's the same activity and they know what to expect, and it may not be stimulating intellectually. But other jobs are intellectually stimulating. Their mental endurance is related to their physical endurance.

For the first group, I'll put together things that they're not used to, to keep them off balance—literally. I'll throw them off a bit physically to get them to focus mentally. I have a guy who loves to lift weights, so I make him walk up a steep incline, then come down walking backward.

The second group doesn't want to figure things out. You don't want to ask them a lot of questions and you want to give them routines they can easily

If you don't want to think too much at the gym, write down some things ahead of time. Or do the pre-programmed routines on the cardio machines. If you're at the gym and you're wondering what to do, my rule is, if you look at a machine or touch it, you have to do it.

In terms of cardio, you need to look at the pace you're doing all day. If you're just walking back and forth and not sprinting, then get on a bike or a treadmill or do a group cycling class and do some sprints to get some intervals in. If you're at a hectic pace all day, do something at a more even pace. Reset your body by doing the opposite. Even if you walk all day, walk backward on the treadmill or pedal backward on the elliptical. Your

Growing HIV rates among gay, bisexual men in Asia

AIDS virus is spreading rapidly among gay and bisexual men in Asia as younger people shun condoms and authorities fail to increase awareness of the disease, health officials said Friday.

The epidemic will worsen dramatically in coming years unless there is better education and stronger political will to combat the disease, warned Massimo Ghidinelli, the World Health Organization's regional adviser on HIV/AIDS.

His comments came at a news conference after a seminar in Hong Kong at which regional AIDS experts discussed the growing trend.

Asia is believed to have the world's largest number of men who have sex with other men, with a preliminary estimate of 10 million, according to WHO.

While describing the figure as "extraordinary high," Ghidinelli said it still appeared to be con-

servative because of the stigmatization of male-to-male sex.

WHO said fragmentary information from the region indicated a rapid spread of HIV among gay and bisexual men, but that full data weren't available. The seminar was called to strengthen efforts to study and address the problem, it said.

Ghidinelli said low condom use among younger men in male-to-male relationships was fueling the transmission of HIV.

"Younger men engaging in sex with men are entering into a sexual arena without the same level of awareness and without taking the same level of protection that the older generation was taking," Ghidinelli told a news conference.

Ghidinelli said the AIDS experts agreed at the conference to set up a regional task force to collect information on male-to-male transmission and to strengthen measures to fight the disease.

18 MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Life & Style

oes being smart makes it harder to date?

By ELLEN MCCARTHY (C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

Alex Benzer, a Harvard grad and author of "The Tao of Dating" books, created a stir last month by declaring that the smart people of the world have the toughest time dating.

His reasons make sense: In adolescence, intelligent folks spent more time trying to tick off college application-worth

achievements than developing where it seems every other perreal relationships; they feel entitled to an easy dating life because of all they've achieved; for years they've valued smarts over sexuality; they discount potential candidates for not being up to their brainiac standards; and most damning of all, they over-think EVERYTHING.

If he's right, Benzer's assessment has particularly searing ramifications in Washington,

son is a high school valedictorian who was reading by age 3 and nailed a perfect score on the verbal portion of the SAT.

So, is it true? We decided to talk to a few experts—smart ones, of course.

"They may over-analyze things. They come in with very high expectations. They want the person to have the same level of education they

do," agrees Amy Schoen, author of several books on dating and marriage.

She especially hears this complaint from women: "They don't want to date me because I'm smart."

"The more education you have, the fussier you are," says Ann Wood, the grande dame of Washington matchmakers, who also agrees with Benzer. "What I find is that smart people have

more interests, more activities. across and how they're read-As a result, when they try to find somebody who likes to do the same things, it's harder for them because they have a smaller pool."

Toni Coleman, a McLean, Va., dating coach, thinks the problem isn't too much intellectual prowess but rather, too little emotional intelligence. "Some folks don't have a good groundedness in how they're coming

ing people," she says. "Anyone who's sincerely trying to date that has these issues ... would be open to looking at things differently and recognize the messages they're getting."

The key, Schoen says, is to manage expectations. "Learn to see what's really important looking at people's values, rather than what their diploma looks like or what's on their resume."

Stylish tricks

By MELISSA MAGSAYSAY

(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times

David Babaii usually gets only 30 minutes or so to style and touch up his celebrity clients' hair for premieres and media junkets, so he's learned to move quickly, travel light and use products that do double duty. In addition to tailoring his hair-care line, David Babaii for WildAid, to fit his on-the-go lifestyle -- with compact hair dryers, super-slim straightening irons and versatile texture sprays -- he's developed several time- and money-saving techniques that make red-carpet hair possible at home.

"The key thing is to have a really good haircut as your foundation," Babaii says. "From there, it's about using great products -- not expensive products, but things that work and will last you a long time."

He offered these simple tips, all of which use inexpensive products.

- The toothbrush and hair spray trick: To tame rogue baby hairs and frizzy hair lines, Babaii recommends spraying a toothbrush with a fine mist of hair spray and lightly combing down unruly hairs. It keeps the hairline neat and small hairs out of the face without the grease and weight of pomade or gel. If you're traveling and don't want to tote a can of hair spray around, clear mascara also does a good job of getting small hairs to stay put.
- "Pebbles" curls: Creating those big, bouncy curls on the back of your head can seem impossible without a third arm (or your own personal hairstylist), so Babaii suggests a tip he learned from Angelina Jolie. "Pull all of your hair on top of your head, like Pebbles" of "The Flintstones," he says. "Then simply separate small sections of hair and start curling the ends until the whole ponytail is curled. Take it down, throw your head over and spray the hair with Bohemian Beach Spray for volume. Angie (Jolie) taught this to me, and now Kate (Winslet) and Uma (Thurman) both do it. It's great, because you can reach all of your hair."
- The secret? Simplicity: To keep his styling explanations as easy and effective as possible, Babaii puts on a long wig at home and practices on himself to best communicate the steps to his clients. He's a big believer in simplicity. "The key is not to be a slave to your hair," Babaii says. "Your hair should be a slave to you."







LOS ANGELES TIMES

Left to right: CURL IT: Use inch-wide hair groups. Don't worry about their direction; TOSS FORWARD: Use a light-hold hair spray, then throw it all back; PIN BACK: Babaii puts the finishing touches on Hunter's new 'do.

Picture-perfect hair gets sexy

By MELISSA MAGSAYSAY

A half up, half down hairstyle can feel reminiscent of eighth-grade picture day, when a spiral perm created the waves and a scrunchie tied it all together. But when Angelina Jolie and Jessica Biel glided down the Oscar red carpet this year with their hair pulled half up in a sexy and seemingly effortless way, the style instantly got a sophisticated new look.

With a Brigitte Bardot "bump" at the crown of the head and textured pieces pulled gently away from the face, today's half up, half down hair is polished enough for a formal event but also can be loose and laid-back to suit the relaxed look of spring.

Celebrity stylist David Babaii gave Jolie her 'do for the Oscars. He also cuts and styles the hair of Kate Hudson, Nicole Kidman, Liv Tyler and Uma Thurman. Between his recent trips to Tokyo (for a film premiere with Kidman) and New York (to trim Tyler's heavy bangs), we caught up with Babaii at the Neil George salon in Beverly Hills, Calif., where, starting in April, he will be cutting civilian hair at a salon for the first time in his career. His services aren't cheap—they start at \$650 for a haircut—but he plans to donate 100 percent of his fee to WildAid, the same organization his hair-care line supports to save endangered animals.

Babaii gave us this step-bystep lesson on how to achieve perfectly tousled half up, half down hair.

Beverly Hills, Calif.



David Babaii gives model Colleen Hunter a half up, half down 'do at Neil George salon in

with clean, dry hair. Section the hair into three equal parts around the head and mist a "sea spray" or "beach spray' product over each section. Babaii uses his own Bohemian Beach Spray, one of the lightest (and cheapest) such sprays we've seen. Working section by section, wind inch-wide lengths of hair around a curling iron, starting from the ends. Don't worry about making all the curls go the same direction—you want "shuffled curls." (And it's OK if you look Shirley Temple-ish in the process. It's only temporary; the curls will fall and separate in

hair spray. Flip hair back over your head, and you're ready to start pinning the top pieces back.

from the top of your head and pin them back with bobby pins. Use small pins unless you have thick or coarse hair, which may require a larger size. Start with the top and work your way over to the side, pinning in stages so you can see how much you want to put back. Don't be afraid to have bobby pins show or to use pins that don't match your hair. "I like that it's not perfect at's sexier," Babaii say

oull back more hair on the side. The texture looks great for daytime, so there doesn't have to be any rhyme or reason to how much you pin back. Later in the day or for evening, regain volume by flipping the hair over to open the curls and separate waves.

"Half up, half down hair was prim and proper back in third grade," Babaii says, "but now it's about being sexy and disheveled. It's cleanliness with chaos."

Metallica, Run-DMC inducted into Rock Hall of Fame

By TOM WITHERS

CLEVELAND (AP)—Metallica shoved the mosh pit into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Heavy metal's heaviest hitters, whose menacing, monstrous sound has banged heads around the globe for decades, were inducted into rock's shrine on Saturday night, capping a star-studded ceremony that felt much more like a concert than an awards show.

For the first time, the no-holdsbarred show, back in Cleveland following a 12-year holdover in New York's Waldorf-Astoria ballroom, was open to the public.

And nearly 5,000 fans partied in the balconies inside renovated Public Auditorium as 1,200 VIPs dined below at tables costing as much \$50,000 each.

Many of the came to pay homage to Metallica, which earned top billing in an eclectic 2009 class that included rap pioneers Run-DMC, virtuoso guitarist Jeff Beck, soul singer Bobby Womack and rhythm and blues vocal group Little Anthony and the Imperials.

Metallica's members have survived some of the dark themes - death, destruction and desolation - that threads through its music, and their induction was a chance to celebrate their legacy as perhaps the hardest band to ever walk the earth. The event also served as a reunion as bassist Jason Newsted, who left the group in 2001, joined his former bandmates on stage for seering versions of "Master of Puppets" and "Enter Sandman."

"Whatever the intangibles elements are that make a band the best, Metallica has them," said Red Hot Chili Peppers bassist Flea, who delivered a heartfelt speech in presenting the band. He recalled being on tour and hearing Metallica on the radio for the first time.

"My mind was blown. It wasn't punk rock. It wasn't heavy metal. It just stood by itself," he said. "I didn't know what it was, but I knew it was a mighty thing."

In accepting their awards, Metallica's members were joined by Ray Burton, the father of original bassist Cliff Burton, who died tragically in 1986 when the band's tour bus skidded off an icy



Metallica members James Hetfield, left, Lars Ulrich, Robert Trujillo and Kirk Hammett arrive on the red carpet for the 2009 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Saturday, April 4, 2009 in Cleveland.

"Dream big and dare to fail, because this is living proof that it is possible to make a dream come true," said frontman-guitaristr James Hetfield, who then rattled off a long list of hard-rocking bands he feels deserve induction.

road in Sweden.

"Deep Purple, Thin Lizzy, Rush, Kiss, Ted Nugent, Iron Maiden, Motorhead. We'd like to invite them through the door," said Hetfield, who concluded his remarks by wrapping Ulrich in a bear hug.

The evening ended with a jam for the ages as Metallica, Beck, Jimmy Page, Aerosmith's Joe Tyler and Flea brought the house down with a performance of the Yardbirds' "Train Kept A Rollin."

A guitar virtuoso, Beck, who was previously inducted in 1992 with the Yardbirds, was put in for his solo work. Although best known for his rock accomplishments, Beck's career has wandered a fretboard of genres ranging from blues to jazz to electronica.

"Jeff's style is totally unorthodox to the way anyone was taught," said Led Zeppelin's Jimmy Page, who presented his longtime friend. "He keeps getting better and better and better."

Beck, wearing all white, was joined on stage by Page, a fellow guitar god, who played bass during a searing rendition of Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song."

With two turntables and a microphone, Run-DMC broke down the barriers between rock and rap. With sparse, stripped-down lyrics above pounding beats, the trio of Joseph "DJ Run" Simmons, Darryl "D.M.C." McDaniels and Jason "Jam Master Jay" Mizell changed rap in the 1980s by taking the realities of the streets to the suburbs.

"They broke away from the pack by being the pack," said rapper Eminem, looking like the band's lost member by sporting the group's trademark black fedora and black leather jacket. "They were the baddest of the bad and the coolest of the cool. Run-DMC changed my life."

"There's three of them and if you grew up with hip hop like I did, they were the Beatles"

Their remake and collaboration with Aerosmith on the rock band's "Walk This Way" changed modern music.

"We were young guys with a new music that people thought was a fad, but we knew the culture was a way of life and we just lived it," McDaniels said. "The music that we made then didn't just impact friends, it impacted a generation. So I guess that's what rock and roll does."

Any chance of a Run reunion ended with Mizell's death in 2002, when he was shot to death outside his studio. His murder remains unsolved.

Mizell's mother, Connie, accepted the award on his behalf.

"My baby is still doing it for me," she said.

Simmons cited "so many smart people and so much help" several times during his speech. He also thanked Mrs. Mizell, who allowed the group to set up their equipment in her Hollis, Queens, living room.

"She never told us to turn the music down once," Simmons said, turning to his late friend's mom. "I'd like to thank you for that."

Cleveland's Womack, the son of a steelworker, is best known for his soulful voice, but he had far greater musical range as a talented songwriter and guitarist.

He also branched into gospel, returning to the roots that got him his start with a family group, the Valentinos. He later played guitar for Sam Cooke.

Ron Wood of the Rolling Stones introduced Womack as "the voice that has always killed me. He brings me to tears." Wood then recalled a night in New York when he and Womack hid as some Hells Angels gang members were roughing up Wilson Pickett.

Little Anthony and the Imperials, who began their career singing on street corners in Brooklyn, N.Y., opened the program with a gorgeous medley of hits "Tears on My Pillow," "Hurt So Bad," and "I'm Alright." Many in the crowd mouthed the familiar tracks as lead singer Anthony "Little Anthony" Gourdine's falsetto filled the room.

Longtime friend Smokey Robinson presented the doo-wop group, calling their induction "long overdue."

Gourdine thanked his music teacher, "wherever you are" during his induction speech.

"We've been in this now for 50 years, and when we were kids we never imagined in our wildest dreams we'd ever be here," he said. "Now that it's here, the one thing we can look at and say is nobody can ever take this away from us."

Drummer DJ Fontana and the late bassist Bill Black - both of Elvis Presley's backup band - and keyboardist Spooner Oldham made it in the sidemen category.

Rockabilly singer Wanda Jackson was inducted as an early influence. Dubbed the "Sweet Lady with the Nasty Voice," the 71-year-old Jackson got her start as a country singer. She was a flamboyant dresser, and her choice of skirts and high heels rankled some hardcore fans. It was Elvis Presley, whom she toured with the 1950s, who persuaded her to sing rock songs.

"She could really rock and still kept her femininity intact," said presenter Roseanne Cash. "She's the prototype for so many of us."

Reality star's funeral cortege tracked by cameras

LONDON (AP)—Hundreds of mourners paid their final respects to reality television star Jade Goody on Saturday, most of them watching her funeral play out—like much of her life—through the lens of a camera.

Goody died of cancer March 22 at age 27, shortly after marrying her fiance Jack Tweed in a media extravaganza.

Her funeral, too, was a media event, with a flower-laden vintage Rolls Royce hearse tracked by a crowd of photographers and a television helicopter.

A mass of fans and journalists gathered at St. John the Baptist Church in Buckhurst Hill, just east of London, where large television screens were installed to relay the service to the public.

Her publicist said Goody wouldn't have wanted it any other way.

"She will have a big smile on her face when she sees what is going on today," Clifford told reporters before the burial.

Goody first caught viewers' attention in 2002 when she appeared in the



The funeral cortege carries away the coffin of reality television celebrity Jade Goody after her funeral service at St. John the Baptist Church, Buckhurst Hill in the county of Essex, England, Saturday April 4, 2009.

"Big Brother" television reality show where contestants are locked inside a house and filmed for weeks at a time. Goody's crude language and eye-popping gaffes—she once asked fellow contestants whether Rio de Janeiro was a person—both repelled and fascinated audiences.

Goody was vilified in the press as uneducated and was criticized for allegedly racist behavior. But her reputation was rehabilitated when she made the decision to film her battle with cervical cancer to raise money for the education of her two young sons. Politicians, clergymen and doctors praised her for drawing attention to the importance of screening for the disease.

Those gathered to attend the funeral Saturday said Goody—known simply as Jade—was a British everywoman made good.

"She was just a real woman who always put her kids first to the end," said mother-of-seven Kirsty Brooks, 34, who traveled more than seven hours with her three sisters to witness the funeral.

Some floral tributes to the star made playful references to her malapropisms, while others praised her as a legend, a wife and a daughter. Mourners applauded as Goody's coffin was carried from the church.

Clifford said Goody would have been pleased with the attention.

"In life she loved being loved and it is pretty clear that this is the overwhelming feeling today," Clifford said.

West Coast gets first live Golden Globes next year

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Golden Globe viewers on the West Coast don't have to worry about online spoilers next year: The show will air live nationally for the first time.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association said this week that the 67th Annual Golden Globe Awards will be broadcast Jan. 17 by NBC at 5 p.m. on the West Coast and 8 p.m. on the East Coast.

In the past, the ceremony honoring movies and television shows aired in prime time on the West Coast on tape delay, but was live elsewhere.

The Golden Globes could use a ratings boost. After being disrupted in 2008 by the Hollywood writers' strike, this year's ceremony was the lowest-rated ever, with 14.6 million viewers.

The Oscars, which air live nationwide, drew 36.3 million viewers this year.

By CHRIS LEE

(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

HOLLYWOOD—Vin Diesel, jaw clenched and brow knitted, was pacing the commissary patio of NBC's Burbank studios in a state of coiled discontent. He had taken issue with a notion about him that has been floating around Hollywood the past few years. Namely, that the actor's ego is even more outsized and buffed up than his muscle-bound physique. And that Diesel had turned his back on sequels to "The Fast and the Furious"—the cinematic thrill ride that made him a household name—out of some overly inflated sense of self.

"If somebody wanted to say my ego prevented the second one from being a real sequel, that's cool," said Diesel, wearing wrap-around sunglasses and a T-shirt that emphasized his grapefruit-sized biceps. "I turned down \$25 million for my ego? If my ego is healthy enough to say, 'I'm not going to do a ... rehash of the same film just because you want me to do it quickly' "—he slapped his palm with the back of his hand impatiently—"that's my ego! My ego is that big!"

In 2001, the chrome-domed actor cruised onto the A-list as the star of "The Fast and the Furious," which followed a multiculti band of street racers (and the women who love them). The movie surpassed all expectations, grossing \$207 million worldwide. But Diesel declined to re-up for "2 Fast 2 Furious" (2003) and seemingly bailed on the franchise except for an unpub-

Publicist: Josh Hartnett released from LA hospital



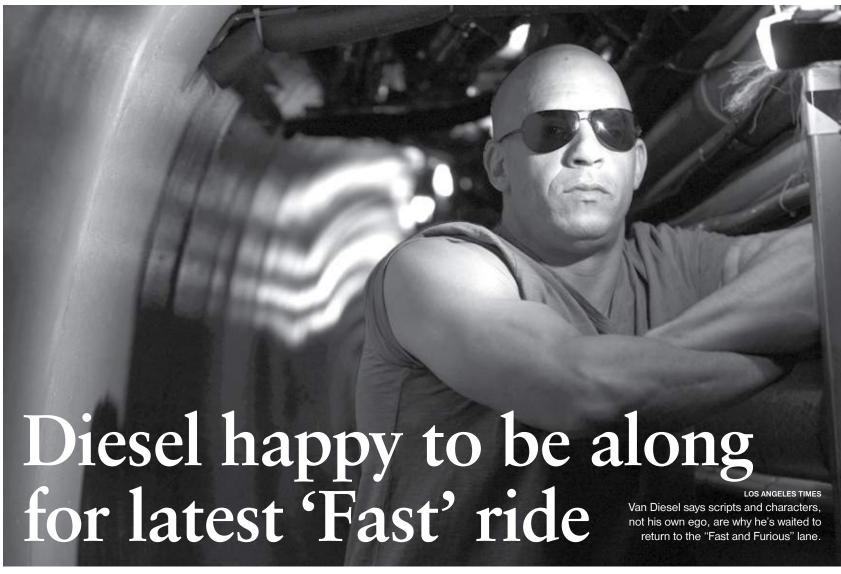
In this Feb. 17, 2009 file photo, actor Josh Hartnett attends the 'Armani 5th Avenue' store opening party in New York.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A publicist says actor Josh Hartnett has been released from a Los Angeles hospital after recovering from gastrointestinal problems

Publicist Susan Patricola said Friday that the 30-year-old Hartnett was released earlier this week after undergoing tests to determine the cause. He had been transported Monday to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

Patricola says Hartnett had a flare-up of a gastrointestinal issue last year that affected him while he was starring in an onstage production of "Rain Man" in London.

Hartnett has appeared in the films "Black Hawk Down," "Sin City," "40 Days and 40 Nights" and "The Black Dahlia."



licized cameo in 2006's "The Fast and Furious 3: Tokyo Drift." The intervening films found some success at the box office, but no true sequel reuniting the original cast members (Jordana Brewster, Paul Walker and Michelle Rodriguez) has reached the screen until now, with Diesel headlining the fourth installment, "Fast & Furious," which reaches theaters Friday.

Diesel had just appeared on "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno," but the actor—who broke character type by working with director Sidney Lumet on 2006's modestly budgeted "Find Me Guilty"—was only getting started on the E-word.

"If someone defines my ego as being the last arbiter on quality on a script, then so be it," he said. "My ego is so big that I'm going to say, 'Whoa, kemosabe!' My ego is big enough that I'm going to say: 'Not interested. I'd rather not have this wonderful opportunity. I'd rather not have the money and work for free with Sidney Lumet.' Because of my damn ego."

And yet here is Diesel, 41, reprising his role of Dominic Toretto—a

wheelman with a heavy right foot and antifreeze in his veins—whose motto in the first "Fast" film is: "I live my life one quarter mile at a time." In "Fast & Furious" his character, now an international fugitive, returns to Los Angeles after being wronged by a ruthless drug cartel. Abetted by the undercover cop (Walker) who nearly brought him down in "The Fast and the Furious," Toretto infiltrates a cadre of drug runners—who race the product in from Mexico in the trunks of souped-up hot rods—in order to exact his revenge on their kingpin.

The actor says his decision to pass on the second "Fast" film—not to mention turning down "xXx2," the sequel to his 2002 hit "xXx"—was dictated by the quality of the material as well as a fear of getting stuck in a certain character type.

"I always get afraid of being pigeonholed," Diesel said. "Which is why it takes me so long to return to characters. Probably longer than most people would like. But the real reason why I didn't return to the characters is the scripts hadn't been right. The characters haven't been right. It's not like I ever said I wouldn't be there."

To wit: When the director of "The ways." And he shot a 20-minute pre-

Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift," Justin Lin, approached Diesel about making a cameo appearance, the actor ignored his representatives' advice. "All my reps, including my agent, said, 'Don't do it,' "Diesel recalled. "They felt it could be me misleading the audience and was too risky."

Ultimately, however, that cameo brought him back into the fold. It opened negotiations that led to Universal, the studio distributing "Fast & Furious," making Diesel an offer he couldn't refuse. "We started talking to him about developing a Dominic Toretto movie," said Neil Moritz, who produced all four "Fast and the Furious" movies. "We were calling it 'Toretto.' It wasn't going to bring the whole cast back. But that was the jumping-off point for the new movie."

"Toretto" was eventually backburnered in favor of reassembling the original cast. Diesel exercised creative control in updating the characters' motivations—such as Walker's police detective character coming to terms with his conflicted code of honor amid skidouts, gun blasts and car crashes—and "redefining their existence in weird ways" And he shot a 20-minute prequel to "Fast & Furious" called "Los Bandoleros" that Diesel says will explain what the "Fast" characters have been doing since viewers last saw Toretto. (The short will be included on the movie's DVD release.)

"It's Dom in the Dominican Republic. How I reconnect with Michelle (Rodriguez's character)," he said. "There's no car chases, no car scenes. It's all character. Justin always calls it the 'Anti-Fast.'"

Lin recalls spending hours discussing half a page of dialogue with Diesel, whom he describes as "meticulous." But the director also bonded with the actor whose early experience as a director (Diesel's feature directorial debut "Strays" premiered at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival) caught the attention of Steven Spielberg and led to Diesel getting cast in his breakthrough role as a World War II grunt in "Saving Private Ryan."

"Vin doesn't make things easy," Lin said. "If I didn't come into the film with clear ideas of what I wanted to accomplish, there would have been big trouble."

Moritz said: "It's not about ego. Vin just wants what's best for the movie."

Will Underwood's secret dress be for ACMs success?

LAS VEGAS (AP)—It's as if Carrie Underwood's dress were a matter of national security.

Gaining access to the superstar country singer's rehearsal Friday night required a few promises: no photos, no video and no describing the gown she'll be wearing Sunday for the Academy of Country Music Awards.

But no one said anything about asking Underwood herself.

"The dress that I'll be wearing during my performance is ... " she began to reply, then suddenly stopped herself, taking a beat to carefully measure each word.

"It's big," she continued. "It's big. There's a lot - a lot of dress."

In struggling to keep a straight

face, Underwood seems perfectly aware this exercise in coyness was both ludicrous and important.

"It's hard to describe," she said. "Kind of like water, maybe? Like red water? That sounds scary, doesn't it? Maybe like lava. It's like lava. Or icing. Red icing."

Underwood loves to play the fashion game, especially at award shows. At last year's ACMs, she had different costumes for the arrivals line, sitting in the audience and performing on stage.

"Why not? There is a lot of great dresses out there," she said. "And I only have a certain number of nights to be able to wear them."

Underwood and Taylor Swift, among the hottest and hardest-working

acts in music today, have brought some serious girl power to what has been a club long ruled by boys. Underwood's nomination for entertainer of the year marks the first time a solo female has competed in the show's top category since 2000.

In 44 years, only six female acts have won the title, the last being The Dixie Chicks in 2000.

"I think the times they are a-changing," said Underwood, a six-time ACM winner who's also defending her two-year reign as top female vocalist. "I hope, my biggest hope, is that this is the first of many. And I'm not saying for me. I'm saying for women in entertainer of the year category. ...

"These guys, they dress in T-shirts

and jeans every night and they put on a show - a great show - and they work very hard. But we women, we've got the hair, we've got the makeup, we've got the heels, we've got the dresses. We get out there, and I might be willing to say we may have to work a wee bit harder than the boys."

Speaking of boys, Underwood, has been photographed at recent Ottawa hockey games, is reportedly currently dating Senators center Mike Fisher.

So is she a hockey fan?

"I love sports in general," she replied. "And I love going to sporting events in general. ... I do like hockey, yeah. It's kind of been a recent development. I think I know all the rules. And, yeah, I do enjoy it."

Celebrity choreographer accused of raping 4 women

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A danc- Los Angeles dance studios, was er and choreographer featured on the FOX television show "So You Think You Can Dance" was arrested Saturday on suspicion of sexually assaulting four of his dance students, police said.

Alex Da Silva, 41, a well-known salsa dancer who teaches at several

taken into custody after teaching a class at a Hollywood studio and booked for investigation of sexual assault, Det. John Eum said.

Da Silva, who was being held on \$3.8 million bail, is scheduled to make his first court appearance Tuesday.

Madonna prepares party in Malawi

known whether the Brazilianborn Da Silva has retained an attorney. The voicemail for a phone number posted on his Web site was full and wouldn't accept messages.

Da Silva had been accused in 2003, 2004 and 2005 of sexually

unknown reasons prosecutors declined to file charges, Eum said.

Then on March 28, a fourth woman accused Da Silva of luring her to his home, using a ruse to get her into his bedroom and raping her. Detectives went back to interview the previous accusers, found similar accusations of being lured to Da Silva's bedroom and sexually assaulted by him, and reopened their cases.

'These four women don't know each other at all, yet their reports read basically the same," the detective said. He noted that one of the accusers was a minor at the time of the alleged assault.

"We're almost sure there are probably other victims out there and we hope they'll come forward," he said.

Families vie for mortgage payoff prize on TV show

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Drew Lachey is hosting a new HGTV competition series with a hefty mortgage payoff prize.

The cable network said Friday that "HGTV's \$250,000 Challenge" will give five neighboring families the chance to snare the quartermillion-dollar prize by competing in home-improvement challenges.

The four-part series, debuting on May 31, teams the families with construction and design experts who will help them with weekly contests including kitchen and living room makeovers.

The neighborhood's location and the names of the families were not announced Friday.



U.S. singer Madonna visits a development project in Gumulira, Malawi, Friday, April 3, 2009

LILONGWE, Malawi (AP)— Madonna is apparently throwing a party in Malawi in a bid to swallow her disappointment that a judge rejected her application to adopt a young orphan.

Traditional dancers have arrived at the luxury lodge where the pop diva is staying, as well as government officials and members of staff of her Raising Malawi charity.

Amid strict security, there was no immediate confirmation on whether it was a farewell party.

Air traffic control authorities

network Canal 7

is broadcasting

footage of the

Brazilian super-

model and the New England

Patriots quarterback in the Pa-

cific coast towns

of Malpais and

Santa Teresa on

said Friday that

the couple were

accompanied

by relatives and

In recent years

the area has be-

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granted clearance for Madonna's jet to depart Saturday but the star stayed in the lodge all day. Her lawyer has said she will appeal against Friday's judgment that she could not adopt a 3-year-old girl because she had not been resident in Malawi.



Participants, from left, Paul McCartney, David Lynch, Ringo Starr, Bettye Lavette and Donovan attend a news conference to promote the "Change Begins Within" benefit concert for the David Lynch Foundation and to support an initiative to teach one million at-risk youth to meditate, Friday, April 3, 2009, in New York.

Bundchen, Brady in Costa Rica for second wedding Television



Brady and Gisele Bundchen arrive at the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute Gala

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)— Costa Rica's media are reporting that Gisele Bundchen and Tom Brady are in the Central American country to celebrate a second wedding.

In this Monday, May 5, 2008 file photo, Tom in New York.

> Matthew McConaughey and members of the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

The couple were reportedly first married in the United States in February.

McCartney, Starr still meditate on India trip

rtney and Ringo Starr are still meditative about their trip to India.

The two remaining Beatles are sharing the stage Saturday night when McCartney headlines Radio City Music Hall.

McCartney said at a press conference Friday that the Maharishi had given the band a "great gift." He said it came at a time "when we were looking for something to kind of sta-

NEW YORK (AP)—Paul McCa- bilize us toward the end of the crazy 1960s."

> Saturday's concert, called "Change Begins Within," benefits the David Lynch Foundation. The organization's initiative is to teach one million at risk youths mediation techniques.

> Besides Starr, McCartney will be joined by Sheryl Crow, Donovan, Eddie Vedder, Ben Harper, Moby, Paul Horn, Bettye LaVette and some surprise guests.

Husband's nightmare attack leaves wife trapped in fear

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Bob," and I have been married 12 years. One night three years ago, he beat me as I slept in our bed. Bob says he must have been having a nightmare and that he would never beat me.

His fists were clenched as he was hitting my head and body that night. I was pinned

door every night.



by the covers and couldn't defend myself. He has been sleeping in the guest room ever since. I lock my bedroom

I have gone to counseling, but Bob refuses because he says it's too expensive. I am unemployed and feel trapped financially by him. How long can a middleaged woman survive in a loveless, passionless and distrustful marriage?

ALL ABOUT BOB IN ALABAMA

DEAR ALL ABOUT BOB: That depends upon the reason your marriage is loveless, passionless and distrustful. You say your husband says he has no memory of striking you. Has he ever raised a hand to you while he was awake? If the answer is no, then he should be evaluated for a sleep disorder.

People have been known to do unusual things in their sleep—including sleepwalking, driving a car, eating compulsively and striking out. Once you know the reason for what happened that night, you will then have enough information to decide what to do about your future.

DEAR ABBY: A few days ago, my 8-year-old daughter, 'Mira," told me that one of her best friends, a girl named "Brittany," was handing out envelopes in class. When Mira asked what Brittany was doing, Brittany told her she was passing out invitations to her birthday party and that my daughter wasn't invited.

I understand that the birthday girl can invite anyone she wants to her party, but this was one of Mira's closest friends. I am also friendly with Brittany's mother. The girl did tell Mira that she is on the "cancellation list"—and if someone cancels, then she can attend.

My daughter is hurt and confused, and frankly, so am I. This was a huge blow to Mira's self-esteem. I can't understand how Brittany's mother could allow her daughter to do this, knowing full well that the girls are close friends. Mira is the only one in the group who was excluded.

I need your help, Abby. How should I handle this without blowing things out of the water?

FEELING HER PAIN

DEAR FEELING HER PAIN: It appears that Brittany's mother isn't as much of a friend as you thought she was, or she would not have allowed her daughter to snub your daughter the way she did.

Being put on a cancellation list (a "B" list) is no compliment, and your daughter should not attend that party even if there is a cancellation. My advice is to make a point of doing something special with your daughter on that day so she won't feel so left out. She should also become involved in extracurricular activities where she can meet other children, so she won't be so dependent upon the clique that cliqued her out.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby -Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

22 MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis





Hey SusiE,



Calvin, you dirty, rotten,









Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

ON THE

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy









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Saturday's answer 4-6

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For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Candace Cameron, 33; Ari Meyers, 40; John Ratzenberger, 62; Merle Haggard, 72

Happy Birthday: You have a lot going on and it will be easy to get off course. Pull in the reins and make sure everything you take on has a purpose. Uncertainty may arise but, if you hang on to your beliefs and follow through with your plans, you will come out on top. Your numbers are 6, 18, 20, 25, 34, 36, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't be too hard on others or you may have to do all the work on your own. Encouragement and optimism will carry you to the finish line. You will make the best impression by being cost- and time- efficient.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You've got to be strong and determined if you want things to go your way. Do not put up with game-playing or maneuvering. This is no time to falter when so much is on the line. Turn changes

into a positive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put your attributes to the test and don't give in to emotional issues. Expect someone who depends on you to give you grief. You can make some extra cash but don't pay for someone else's mistakes. An opportunity is coming down the pipeline.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Accepting change is necessary if you want to avoid getting stuck with someone else's responsibilities. Put a little extra effort in at home and you will feel better about your place and surroundings. OOOO



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): There is more to what's going on around you than you realize. Remember things you endured as a child and you will know exactly what to do with the situation you face now. Sudden changes in contracts or financial affairs are likely.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put passion first and anger last. Do not get manipulated into something that won't work for you. If you don't like the information you are being given, research until you find a way to over-

come whatever you are facing. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Something is going on behind your back. Networking and openly discussing what you would like to see happen will hold a lot of clout and help you stay in whatever game you are playing. Don't allow anyone to push you around.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can change the canvas if you apply your creative talent and your know-how to get what you want. A problem at home may have you questioning your personal relationships. You will feel better once you address a misconception.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Expect anyone you have been unfair with to retaliate. You may have to back down if vou don't want to be embarrassed. Arguing will

only add to your frustration. Expand your circle of friends. 🛇 CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You've got more control than you think.

You can stabilize your position by mak-



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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Don't give in to someone you love when he or she is asking for too much. **OCOCO** AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look

ing a few changes to the way you do things.

back at your life and the people who have come and gone. If there is someone you wish to hook up with, do so. Making the effort will likely change the course of your life. Love is on the rise.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be torn between what you can and cannot do. Someone may challenge you and what you know. Back away from controversy until you have a better handle on the way you really feel. 🛇 🔾 🔾

Birthday Baby: You are open-minded, quick to react and eager to try new things. You are a helper and a good communicator and you stand up for your beliefs.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun. eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Voctordov's CIIDOVII Answer

	Yesterday's Suduku Answer										
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WONDERWORD

By DAVID

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell is Wordsman

SOME U.S. NAVY SHIPS

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© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com Boxer, Champlain, Class, Cole, Combat, Crew, Deep, Doyle, Erie, Essex, Exercise, Fitzgerald, Ford, Frigates, Gulf, Howard, Hull, Ingraham, Kidd, Kitty Hawk, Klakring, Lake, Lincoln, Mahan, Mason, McHenry, Mercy, Milius, Minesweeper, Mission, Norfolk, Porter, Preble, Rise, Ross, Rushmore, Sailor, Seas, Sentry, Ships, Transporter, Truman, Underwood

Last Saturday's Answer: Pulitzer VOL. 28 is here! To corder, send \$5.95 each US funds only) payable to Universal Press Syndicate plus \$3 postage for the first cooks order, \$1 pith for each additional book. Send to WCNDERWORD, 1130 Walland St. Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call holl-fee 50-00-024-2640. Over online at lupuszion Sendicate purpose poli which are he larger, 20 x 03 seep! SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 **23**

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Search party

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BT. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BT Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Backup Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Drunk Drving

Over the limit. Under arrest.

AUTOMOTIVE

Looking for used cars, Nissan, Echo,

Corrola & Camry. Year 2000 thru 2005

models. We pay cash. Call 323-7676

WANTED TO LEASE

Looking for house/property. Good location! Lease for 55 yrs. Budget \$45,000 & below. We pay cash. Pls. call 323-7676

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

RUMMAG

Find today's solution in this section

BL Tailor Shop

Looking for Tailors "All Kinds"

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE

ACCOUNTANT

Submit resume to

INTERKAM TRAVEL AGENCY

or call Tel. Nos.

235-8888/5554/5555

Please Call: 235-4928

Vicente T. and Remedios D. Cangco P.O. Box 503192 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone No. 323-2357

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ADOPTION
OF JENAM LYNN DELA
CRUZ CANGCO and
JUSTIN JAY DELA
CRUZ CANGCO,
Minor Children.

n,

NO.09-0093

NOTICE

HEARING

VICENTE T. CAMACHO and REMEDIO D. CANGCO,

Petitioner

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Adoption for the above-named minor children by Vicente T. Cangco and Remedio D. Cangco Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Adoption will held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before the Honorable Kenneth L. Govendo on the 16th day of April, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. or as soon as thereafter.

Bernadita A. Sablan Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

JOAQUIN TAISACAN QUITUGUA,

Plaintiff,

FRANCISCO BLAS IGISAIAR) NOTICE OF SALE Defendants.)

CIVIL ACTION

96-1249

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on March 6, 2009, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants Eddy Blas Igisaiar in and to the following property: Lot No. 026 K 80, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 895 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 026 K 08 dated September 24, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-3500, the description therin being incorporated herein by reference.

Date. Time. and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, May 1, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Ofices of Michael A. White, Esq., LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 17th day of March, 2009.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE Auctioneer

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO
	(PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$25
• 5-Liner	\$35
• 3-Liner with picture	\$45
• 5-Liner with picture	\$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

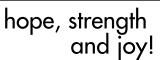
CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.





"My wish is to become a firefighter!"

Saipan Tribune



MAKE WISH.

Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104
Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

Spartans vs. Tar Heels in NCAA finals



(AP)—As his Michigan State teammates hustled downcourt, Lucas looked around at

a stadium ablaze in green and white, turned on his megawatt smile and raised both his arms.

No worries, he seemed to be saying, we've got you.

Carrying an entire state knocked down by the economic crisis is a lot to ask of a group of college kids, but the Spartans are proving they're more than up to the task.

"It means so much, so much," said Magic Johnson, who sat just a few rows behind the Michigan State Saturday night. "It's been all bad news the last couple of years."

It's nothing but good news now. Lucas scored 21 points, Raymar Morgan broke out of his late-season slump with 18 and nine rebounds, and the smaller Spartans ran roughshod Hasheem over Thabeet and Connecticut in an 82-73 upset in the Final Four on Saturday night.

The Spartans (31-6) now will play North Carolina for the NCAA title Monday night, giving the city and state at least two more days to forget all the bad news and revel in their Spartans' success.

Michigan It's State's first appearance in the title game since 2000, when the Spartans won their second title.

"One thing we talked about is

bringing hope to the city for a nal Four. They'd made it twice bewhole weekend," said Travis Walton, who dished out eight assists. on to win the title each time. "People forgetting about their problems, forgetting about what 4 in 49 seconds, getting within 3 they're going through, just focusing on us and focusing on Michigan State.

"From the moment we were on that court and we won that game, people didn't think about what they was going through outside of this. They was just happy that we won and they can continue to cheer for us on Monday."

How's this for some karma? Johnson, Spartan-in-chief since leading Michigan State to its first title in 1979, will present the game ball before Monday's title game along with Larry Bird.

"I hope we were a ray of sunshine, a distraction for them, a diversion, anything else we can be,"

DETROIT coach Tom Izzo said. "We're not Final Four magic. done yet, so hopefully we can continue to make them feel a little better and us feel a lot better.'

> The loss is the latest blow for UConn, the best team in the country until Jerome Dyson went down with a knee injury in mid-February. The Huskies (31-5) have been dealing with distractions since last May, when coach Jim Calhoun was diagnosed with his third bout with cancer, and are now facing questions about alleged recruiting

The loss snapped Calhoun and Connecticut's perfect run in the Fi-

Ty Lawson scored 22 points, Wayne Ellington had 20 more and the Tar Heels, with their four, five, maybe more NBA-caliber players, stayed on a path that has seemed almost certain since the season began in November.

Tyler Hansbrough had 18 points and 11 rebounds to make this a quite successful return to the Final Four after a remarkable dud last year in a semifinal loss to Kansas. Next up, North Carolina (33-4) goes for its second title in five years Monday against Michigan State, an 82-73 winner over Connecticut.

Thompson was on press row doing radio and Massimino was chomping his gum nervously behind the Villanova bench, part of the record crowd of 72,456 at Ford Field—half gone and streaming toward the exits with 5 minutes left.

But James Naismith himself probably couldn't have helped 'Nova out of this one.

North Carolina simply had too much talent.

"They played a great game and are playing extremely well," Villanova coach Jay Wright said. "They've got all the pieces, and we have great re-



Connecticut's Hasheem Thabeet tries to hold off Michigan State players Marquise Gray, left, and Raymar Morgan as they go for the ball in the first half of their men's NCAA Final Four semifinal college basketball game Saturday, April 4, 2009, in Detroit.

fore—1999 and 2004—and went

with a minute to go. But the outcome was never really in doubt. Durrell Summers, a Detroit native who experienced firsthand the hardships his city and state are enduring when both parents were laid off, converted a three-point play to put the game out of reach.

UNC 83, Villanova 69

In Detroit, men vs. boys. Big brother vs. little brother. Future pros against a bunch of good college kids.

That summed up North Carolina's 83-69 victory over Villanova on Saturday night. The ultra-talented Tar Heels simply never gave the Wildcats a chance to breathe, let alone whip up a fresh dose of

"It feels good to be back here to get another shot," Carolina forward Deon Thompson said. "Now that UConn cut an 11-point deficit to we have an opportunity, we have to seize it."

> The Spartans, located 90 miles up the road in East Lansing, will certainly have the crowd on their side. The talent gap, though? Eek. They'll have to be at least 35 points better than they were in December when the teams met in this same building—a 98-63 UNC romp.

> "They had a couple players that were hurt and came off a long road stretch," Lawson said. "We know they're a better team right now."

> Meanwhile, Villanova (30-8) ends a successful season two wins short of its first title since 1985, when Rollie Massimino coaxed one of the greatest upsets in sports history out of his guys-66-64 over Patrick Ewing, John Thompson and

spect for them. We've been getting better every game, and we did not get better tonight."

Carolina did.

Last season, in one of the more inexplicable performances in Final Four history, the Tar Heels trailed Kansas 40-12 midway through the first half.

This time, they led 40-23.

"I've been there. I was there a year ago," North Carolina coach Roy Williams said. "It feels like somebody jerks your heart out and shakes it."

Ellington made five of his first six shots, including a 3-pointer after a perfect crosscourt pass over the top from Danny Green. Nobody had an answer for Hansbrough, who once found himself bodied up with Dante Cunningham, faked left, then spun to the baseline and saw no more resistance—a way-too-easy layup.

Broncos owner explains Cutler deal to fans



ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)— Denver Broncos owner Pat Bowlen said in a letter to season ticket holders Saturday that the organization had no choice but

to trade Jay Cutler over his insubordination. Bowlen preached a message of team unity in the e-mail, reiterating that he and new coach Josh McDaniels had reached out many times to Cutler, who didn't respond to their overtures.

Bowlen, who remained largely silent during the six-week rift that ended with Thursday's blockbuster trade with the Chicago Bears, wrote that anybody who puts himself above the team gets a one-way ticket out of town.

"Understand this: it remains about team," Bowlen wrote. "Our franchise has gone to the Super Bowl six times, with three different coaches and with many different players. It has never been about one player, and it never will be. Coach McDaniels shares this vision, and everyone in the organizationplayers, coaches and staff-must understand and accept this unconditionally. If anyone does not, that person will not be a part of this franchise."

Cutler became disenchanted in Denver when he learned the team had talked about trading him for New England Patriots quarterback Matt Cassel six weeks ago.

He requested a trade last month after a face-to-face meeting with McDaniels failed to clear the air. The Broncos initially balked, with McDaniels saying repeatedly that Cutler was his guy and they would work things out.

Cutler ignored calls and texts from Mc-Daniels and Bowlen, however, and the owner reached his breaking point Tuesday and told McDaniels and general manager Brian Xanders to try to trade Cutler.

Several teams were interested in the 25-year-old, rocket-armed passer who made the Pro Bowl in his second full season as a starter. But the Bears came up with the best offer, sending quarterback Kyle Orton, two first-round draft picks and a third-rounder to Denver for Cutler and a fifth-rounder.

In his letter, Bowlen wrote that he felt compelled "to give our community and our fans an explanation regarding the Jay Cutler situation," and suggested he had no problem with his 32-year-old rookie coach chasing off a franchise quarterback before he'd even conducted his first practice.

Bowlen said one of his directives when he hired McDaniels to replace Mike Shanahan "was that he consider everything possible to return the Broncos to the level which you and I both expect, and this certainly includes making a fair evaluation of every opportunity presented to us which might improve the team."

"He and General Manager Brian Xanders have had my complete support throughout, and they have it now," Bowlen wrote. "It is important that you know that at all times we represented ourselves to Jay with honesty and integrity."

Bowlen added that more than 96 percent of season ticket holders had renewed for 2009, which he wrote was "a compelling statement of support and trust."

Deana Sanders, a season ticket holder since 1996, didn't even open her e-mail from Bowlen, who already has her support.

"Whether the Broncos are at fault or not, that doesn't matter," Sanders said. "If I threw a fit like Jay Cutler and didn't respond to a call from my boss, I wouldn't even have a job. I wouldn't have an opportunity to be traded."

At least one fan's feelings weren't assuaged by Bowlen's letter.

Phillies all set for World Series title defense



PHILADEL-PHIA (AP)— The championship banner

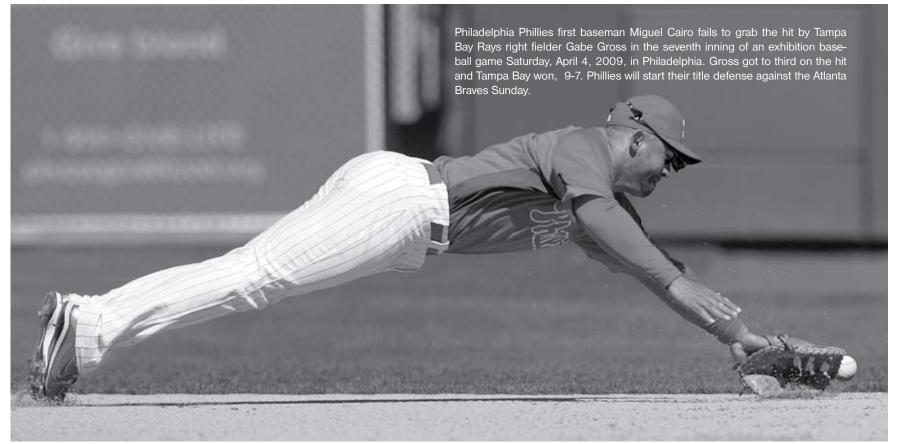
that'll hang above Ashburn Alley and those shiny rings they'll soon receive will be a constant reminder that the Philadelphia Phillies are 2008 World Series champions.

Once Brett Myers throws the first pitch Sunday night against the Atlanta Braves in the 2009 major league opener, last year won't matter anymore.

"It's time for us to go out there and defend our title, and play the game," center fielder Shane Victorino said. "I'm not going to look back at '08 once I get the season started on Sunday. You have to move forward. You're definitely going to be talked about as the world champs, and we want to go out there and keep winning.'

Since the first day of spring training, players have stressed the importance of focusing on this season instead of reflecting on their magical run last October. The goal is to repeat. That's no easy feat, considering it hasn't been done this decade.

The New York Yankees were the last team to win consecutive



championships, capturing three straight titles from 1998-2000. The Cincinnati Reds were the last NL team to win two in a row in 1975-76.

"Guys personally want to have better years, and that can

only help us to repeat," shortstop Jimmy Rollins said. "Guys aren't satisfied with finally winning a championship. We want years, and you have to stay hungry to do that."

to be good for a number of

The outspoken Rollins kept a low profile this spring. Now that the Phillies are champions, his days as a prognosticator are over. It's too bad because Rollins went 2-for-2 with his bold predictions.

Before the 2007 season, Rollins claimed the Phillies were the team to beat in the NL East. Helped by a historic collapse by the New York Mets, Philadelphia overcame a big deficit and captured the division title. Rollins backed up his words by having an MVP season.

Last year, Rollins said the Phillies would win 100 games. They got 92 of them in the regular season and 11 more in the playoffs.

"Retirement," Rollins said when asked for another pick. "I've said it five times."

The Phillies are favorites to win another division crown because they have nearly the same team that breezed through the postseason, going 11-3 against Milwaukee, Los Angeles and

moved

11-under par to take a one-shot

lead through eight holes of his

third round at the Shell Hous-

ton Open just before play was

suspended Saturday because of

Colt Knost and Tommy Armour

III were all at 10 under when the

horns sounded at 7:34 p.m. The

players will resume the round

early Sunday, then immediately

Van Pelt, winless in eight-

plus years on the PGA Tour,

shot a 67 in the second round, then birdied three of the first

seven holes in his third round.

Knost, playing with Van Pelt,

was leading at 11 under until a

three-putt bogey at the par-5

eighth. Van Pelt hit a pitch to 3

tee off for the final 18.

Fred Couples, Paul Casey,

Every starter except left fielder Pat Burrell returns and four-fifths of the starting rotation is the same. Raul Ibanez replaced Burrell and Chan Ho Park took Kyle Kendrick's spot in the rotation.

Cole Hamels, the MVP of the NLCS and World Series, isn't pitching the opener because he had minor elbow problems. So, Myers gets his third straight opening day assignment.

Myers was 10-13 with a 4.55 ERA last year. He pitched so poorly the first half that he was demoted to the minors, but was outstanding down the stretch. Myers lost 25 pounds in the offseason, and hopes for a bust-out year as he enters the final season of a \$25.75, three-year contract.

"I think Brett Myers has had that potential his whole career, and this year has the potential to a big year for him," manager Charlie Manuel said. "I think he's ready to go and he spent a lot of time this winter working out and getting in shape and Ryan Howard said.

he came to spring training that way. He's looking forward to having a big season for us, and we need him to have a big season to repeat."

Myers will be opposed by Derek Lowe, who was lured away from the Dodgers by a \$60 million, four-year contract. Lowe was 14-11 with a 3.24 ERA last year. The Phillies beat him in Game 1 of the NLCS and he had a no-decision in Philadelphia's victory in Game 4.

Lowe anchors an overhauled rotation that includes newcomers Javier Vazquez and Kenshin Kawakami. Atlanta has missed the playoffs three straight years after winning an unprecedented 14 consecutive division titles. The Phillies were 14-4 against the Braves last year, including 9-0 in Atlanta.

"We just need to be us, and not try and look at last season to put more pressure on ourselves. It's 2009 now," Phillies slugger

Howard, Magic bring down Hawks



ATLANTA (AP)— Dwight Howard scored 21 points and tied a season high with 23 rebounds, helping the Orlando Magic beat the Atlanta Hawks 88-82 on Saturday night to

pull within a half-game of tying for second place in the Eastern Conference.

Howard's performance marked the ninth time this season, and 23rd of his five-year career, that he's had at least 20 points and 20 rebounds in a game.

Coming off a blowout home victory over East-leading Cleveland on Friday, the Magic have won of two straight, eight of nine and 11 of 13. They are four games behind the Cavaliers and trail the second-place Celtics by percentage points.

Joe Johnson scored 21 points for the Hawks, who have dropped three straight and six of eight.

Heat 118, Wizards 104

In Washington, Dwyane Wade scored 33 points, and the Miami Heat broke a franchise record with eight 3-pointers in the fourth quarter to put away the Washington Wizards.

Wade and James Jones each made three 3-pointers in the final period, finally blowing open the game after the last of several Wizards comebacks. Miami made a season-high 14 3-pointers in 32 attempts, including going 8-for-13 in the fourth.

The last two times the Heat

made the previous franchise mark of seven in a quarter came at Washington—the last time exactly a year ago on April 4, 2008.

76ers 95, Pistons

In Philadelphia, Andre Iguodala scored a season-high 31 points, Andre Miller had a triple-double with 21 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds, and the Philadelphia 76ers clinched a playoff spot.

Detroit led 88-87 with 2:17 left after Rodney Stuckey made two free throws. Miller made three free throws and Reggie Evans added two more with 39 seconds left for a 92-88 lead. Stuckey made two foul shots with 22.7 seconds left, cutting the lead to 92-90, but Miller answered with two foul shots.

Stuckey scored 23 points for Detroit, and Kwame Brown added a season-high 15 points.

Raptors 102, Knicks

In New York, Andrea Bargnani scored 23 points, Chris Bosh had 17 points and 13 rebounds, and the Toronto Raptors extended their winning streak to six.

Shawn Marion added 12 points and 13 boards for the Raptors, who stayed alive for an Eastern Conference playoff spot in a run that is almost certain be too little, too late. Toronto would have been eliminated with a loss and a victory by Chicago.

Bulls 103, Nets 94

In Chicago, Ben Gordon scored 12 of his 18 points in the fourth quarter, John Salmons added 17

and the Chicago Bulls beat the New Jersey Nets for their eighth win in 11 games.

Gordon missed his first 10 shots and was just 3-for-14 overall, but he hit a key 3-pointer and two free throws during a game-ending 10-0 run.

Brad Miller put Chicago (37-40) ahead for good, 95-94, with two free throws.

Grizzlies 107, Bucks

In Milwaukee, Rudy Gay scored 26 points, helping the suddenly surging Memphis Grizzlies hold off the Milwaukee Bucks.

Gay looked unstoppable in spurts for the young Grizzlies, who equaled a season high with their fourth straight win and continued to build momentum under coach Lionel Hollins, a former Bucks assistant who took over as the Grizzlies' head coach in January.

Marc Gasol added 19 for Memphis.

Nuggets 120, Clippers 104

In Denver, the Denver Nuggets had plenty of firepower and defense even without Kenyon Martin to beat the short-handed Los Angeles Clippers for their 11th win in 12 games.

J.R. Smith led the Nuggets in scoring for the second straight game with a scintillating 34-point performance off the bench, and Carmelo Anthony added 18 points.

Zach Randolph led L.A. with 22 points, and DeAndre Jordan added 21.

take the outright lead.

Couples, fourth at Redstone last year, had birdies on both par 5s on the front nine, then sank a 6-foot birdie putt on the 10th to join the group at 10 under.

"I'm glad we stopped right there," Couples said. "It's a good thing, because we're going to play a lot of holes (on Sunday). If I play well, that will be a good thing."

When play resumes on Sunday, 16 players will be within three shots of Van Pelt's lead.

"Tomorrow will be a lot of fun," Couples said. "It's not an easy course, so I've got to go out and be sharp."

Casey, who shared the second-round lead at 8 under, birdied the par-5 fourth and holed a 37-footer on No. 7.

Robert Karlsson, Lee West-

among the group at 9 under. Padraig Harrington and Justin Leonard were part of a large group at 8 under.

Greg Norman, making a rare appearance on the regular tour to prepare for next week's Masters, played 36 holes Saturday and was 6 under par after three completed rounds.

The tournament will resume on Sunday without Phil Mickelson, who missed the cut at 9-over par.

Mickelson followed a firstround 77 with a 76 on Saturday that included two triple bogeys. But Mickelson didn't seem worried about his game heading into next week's Masters. He hadn't played since winning the CA Championship on March 15 and said he needed to play some tournament rounds, regardless of the scores.

Van Pelt leads in suspended third round in Houston HUMBLE, feet and sank the birdie putt to wood and Geoff Ogilvy were Texas (AP) switch places with Knost and Bo Van Pelt



darkness.

Heo joining two ITF events in Korea

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Ji Hoon Heo left Saipan last Monday to par-

ticipate in two Junior ITF tournaments in Korea.

Heo, in an interview with Saipan Tribune after his finals game against Kirk Schuler in the 9th Annual PIC/Gatorade rea will be the Jeju International Tennis Championships, said he will be competing in Jeju and Seoul and he is hoping to earn ranking points from the two tournaments. The 17year-old netter, who defeated Schuler in the men's open singles finals, 6-4, 6-0, is currently ranked No. 1255, as he has earned five ranking points in singles and 3.75 in doubles.

Heo's first tournament in Ko-

Junior Championships 2009, which will run from April 7 to 12. It is a Grade 4 event, which offers the least ranking points and is used as an introduction to the ITF Junior Circuit.

The CNMI top junior netter in the boys' 18-and-under division left a week before the tournament in Jeju to acclimatize himself

"I remember I was in the

same tournament last year and it was very cold. I arrived there only a few days before the start of the tournament and I was not able to adjust to the weather quickly. I could not get my game going, as it was pretty cold," Heo said.

In his debut in Jeju, Heo had to join a qualifying tournament before making it to the main draw. Unfortunately, he lost in the qualifier and went home early. This time, he is entered in the main draw after earning ranking points last year.

"This time I will perform better. I think after going through several off-island tournaments, I matured as a player and my endurance and power improved, too. But still, I have a lot to learn and hopefully, these tournaments in Korea will help me raise my game to a higher level," Heo added.

From a skinny junior player, two years ago, Heo bulked up, gaining upper body strength after frequent visits to the gym.

"The power is there, but I still need to work more on my footwork," said Heo, who now wears braces to protect his ankles.

Heo sustained an injury on both ankles while playing in New Caledonia last year and although he is quickly gaining his form, he admits the pain is still there.

After the tournament in Jeju, Heo will rest for a few days and then move to Seoul, where he has to compete in the qualifier before making it to the main draw.

DOLLAR DAYS

From Page 28

to win the match, 104-101, after neutralizing Wowie Abuel.

In Game 3, Dollar Days' returned the favor, as it harassed KFC/Taco Bell gunner Bonbon Cadagat. After scoring 25 markers in Game 2, Cadagat had a tough day in the office in Game 3, as he was without a fieldgoal and was held to four free throws in the first three quarters before coming up with a too-late surge in the fourth, firing 11 points.

Cadagat's lackluster game rubbed off his teammates. Tumaguip, who nailed 13 points and had two triples in Game 2, had to bleed for points. He was without a triple and made only nine markers before fouling out in the last 4:09 of the game. Lerio, who finished with 20 points in Game 2, was held to two charities and missed all his five attempts from downtown in the first half before hitting three in the second half en route to a 16-point output. Big men Melvin Capalad and Larry Palero, who canned clutch baskets in Game 2, were non-factors in Game 3 with the former getting injured in the second quarter and the latter making

With Cadagat and company struggling, Dollar Days increased the lead to 18 at halftime, 52-34. KFC/Taco Bell made a little headway in the early part of the third canto, cutting the lead to 13, 43-56. But Dollar Days found ways to halt KFC/

only two points.

Taco Bell's rally, nailing several baskets with a few seconds left in the 24-second shot clock, getting loose balls, and making defensive stops to end the third canto with a 79-56 lead.

Dollar Days had its biggest lead at 79-51 early in the final canto before Cadagat anchored a KFC/ Taco Bell run, scoring six straight points to cut the lead to 11, 71-82, with 6:34 left in the game.

But it was simply not KFC/Taco Bell's night, as Bart Demapan made five straight points to widen the gap. 88-74, going into the last three minutes of the game.

The next two plays capped KFC/Taco Bell's frustrating night, as JR Concepcion was momentarily open for a layup, but was blocked by Ivan De Vero. Dollar Days pushed the

ball up before Concepcion stole the leather and passed it to Quincy Johnson, who struggled to catch it from the left sideline of Dollar Days' front court. Johnson was able to throw the ball to Cadagat before losing his footing, but the latter could not save it from going out of the right sideline.

On the other end, basketball seemed easy for Dollar Days, as Abuel and Demapan teamed up for a pick and roll play on top of the key with the latter on the finishing end, making a jumper near the foul line.

When league volunteer Badong Camacho announced that the game was entering the last two-minute mark, Dollar Days' players and supporters began to celebrate.

Pacific Trading, Shell Marianas, Docomo Pacific, Sherwin Williams, Safety First, Pacific Islands Club, Saipan Ice, JG Sablan Water and Ice, the Department Land of Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Emergency Management Office, DPS Boating Safety, Marianas Visitors Au-

SFA said its next event will be the 25th annual Saipan International Fishing Derby to be held

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

19

45

45

15

46

19

.753

.533

.408

.400

.382

.803

.481

.474

.421

.410

.558

.532

.447

17

26 1/2

27

28 1/2

24 1/2

25

29

14 1/2

16 1/2

23

40

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

58

40 35

31

30

29 47

61

37 40

36 40

32 44

32

Southeast Division

57

43 34

41 36

34 42

Central Division

v-Boston

Philadelphia

New Jersey

Toronto

New York

y-Cleveland

Chicago

Detroit

Indiana

Milwaukee

y-Orlando

x-Atlanta

x-Miami

Charlotte

Dollar Days 97 – De Vero 25, Demapan 21, Abuel 14, Bernardo 14, Tamayo 9, Pantaleon 9, Galvez 6, Siriban 2.

Finals

KFC/Taco Bell 83 – Lerio

16, Cadagat 15, Itaas 10, Concepcion 10, Tumaquip 9, Norita 8, Johnson 7, Jugos 3, Capalad 3, Palero 2.

Scoring by quarters: 31-17, 52-34, 79-56, 97-83.

> 67 70 38

67 69 32

71

72 67 50 189

71 68 50

69

70 68

60 200

42

168

180

Jonathan Byrd

Geoff Ogilvy

J.B. Holmes

Padraig Harrington

Charles Howell III

Justin Leonard

ST. PATRICK

From Page 28

after coming in at the weighing station less than an hour behind Sea Craft IV

Sea Craft IV arrived at 3:41pm , while San Juan II checked in at 4:12pm.

Nombei's Joe Borja (captain), and Pat Ulechong, Jerry Smith and Frank Iguel (anglers) placed fifth with their 18.10 lb-catch and took home \$200 cash.

Manding Legaspi said it was

the biggest mahi-mahi he and the St. Patrick crew caught since the tournament started and it was also their first time to finish on top.

But this year's winning catch failed to top last year's 24.3-lb mahi caught by Sea Craft IV crew, also on Tinian

Legaspi did not join last year's derby, the first time he skipped the tournament since its inception, five years ago.

Saipan Fishing Association president Gene Weaver said it was an interesting tournament because it was a nongovernment payday ,but they were able to accomplish their

A record of 47 boats registered for the tournament, according to SFA special event chairman John Pan.

"Everybody arrived safely. There was no distress call reported. It only showed that all participants practiced safe boating," Pan said.

Organizers of Saturday's derby thanked the following for supporting the tournament:

thority, and Saipan Fishermen Association.

either in July or August.

Roque Camacho of Freedom

Air came out on top of the pitch-

ing leaders with 4.76 earned run

average. He allowed 118 hits

and 80 runs out of 75 innings in

Based on 35 or more innings

pitched, Sakisat was ranked sec-

ond with his 4.94 ERA, Mike

Sablan of P&S third with 5.22,

Ed Mendiola of CPA fourth

(5.25) and John Terlaie of PSS

In the lower half of the Top 10

nailed 41.

13 games.

Washington 18 60 .231 **WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division**

x-San Antonio	49	26	.653	-
x-Houston	48	28	.632	1 1/2
New Orleans	47	28	.627	2
Dallas	45	31	.592	4 1/2
Memphis	22	54	.289	27 1/2

Northwest Division

Po	rtland	48	27	.640	2
Uta	ah	46	30	.605	4 1/2
	nnesota	22	54	.289	28 1/2
	Ilahoma Cit	y 21	54	.280	29

Pacific Division

z-LA Lakers	60	16	.789	-
Phoenix	42	34	.553	18
Golden State	27	49	.355	33
LA Clippers	18	58	.237	42
Sacramento	16	59	.213	43 1/

x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ; z-Clinched Home Court

Yesterday's Games

Orlando 88, Atlanta 82, Miami 118. Washington 104 Philadelphia 95, Detroit 90 Toronto 102, New York 95 Chicago 102, new Jersev 94 Memphis 107, Milwaukee 102 Denver 120, LA Clipper 104

SHELL HOUSTON OPEN (PARTIAL THIRD ROUND)

Bo van Peit	70	67	29	100
Fred Couples	68	69	37	174
Tommy Armour III	66	70	31	167
Colt Knost	66	70	31	167
Paul Casey	66	70	31	167
Robert Karlsson*	70	71	63	204
Jason Bohn	69	71	59	199
Lee Westwood	69	70	44	183
Ryan Moore	70	68	45	183

Chris Stroud* Mark Calcavecchia*

Alex Cejka*

J.J. Henry*

Davis Love III'

Jason Dufner*

Tim Wilkinson*

Chad Campbell* 72

Justin Rose*

Bob Estes*

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

69 54

71 36 179

73 72

74 63

75

71 41

49

192

73

73 69 49

72

68

68

70 73 46

68 75 38 181

69 73 67

*player started on back nine

BJ

From Page 28

it to the Top 15.

The Beach Boys landed in second place in the team standings with their 16-3 win-loss record, while Docomo is fourth

with 15-4. Julian Camacho of pennant winner Department of Community and Cultural Affairs averaged .727 (48-for-66), good only for third place, though he was on top of the list in most

runs scored and in most RBIs. DCCA swept its 19 regular season games with three more of its players making it to the batting leaders list.

Mel Sakisat went at bat for the most number of times with 70 and the ace pitcher hit 50 to stay in fifth with .714. Joey Dela Cruz was 8th (.688), and Jun Saralu placed 13th (.638).

Mabel Ngirngemelas of POI Aviation stayed at fourth (.721), Benwachi Taisacan of Joeten Motors at sixth (.704), and Roy Celis of Freedom Air at seventh

based on 43 or more times at bat were Jerry Ayuyu, No Zone (9th-.679), Shane Yamada, Freedom Air (10th-.674), Ned Norita, No Zone (11th-.673), Byron Kaipat, CPA (12th-.660), Tony Celis, Legislature (14th-.636), and Hector Efraim, Joeten Motor Jets (15th-.633).

Julian Camacho topped the list in runs scored with 48, Dela Cruz had 46, Sakisat made 41, Ayuyu recorded 39 and Celis. Sakuma and Craig Sanchez came up with 36 each.

Oscar Sablan and Tony Lizama had the most doubles with 11 apiece and Pete Teigita in triples with seven.

Dela Cruz had the most homer-Others included on the list uns with 18, followed by Celis (17), Camacho (15), Ayuyu (14), Kaipat (13), Sakuma (9), Sakisat, and Reno Celis (8).

Julian Camacho recorded the most RBIs with 58, Sakuma had 53. Dela Cruz posted 50. Celis earned 49, Kaipat tallied 46, Ayuyu notched 45, and Taisacan

list were Shine Tenorio and J.J. Laniyo of Joeten Motors with .537 and .540 respectively, Mel Tudela of CUC (6.10). Carl Hocog of No Zone (6.30), and Steve Igisair of Beach Boys (7.00).

Techur, who also reached home third base once and second base on another single by Norman twice in the first six innings, Techur for the Dolphins' first finally scored as Dennis Ngi-

made the team's third and final run on a sacrifice fly to right-

two runs in the third. raurois's single sent Roger Mai Inos Yamada also doubled home with one out. to start the fourth inning. He

field by Ed Kapileo.

Trubaks, which only reached

Two more Trubaks' batters singled, making the bases loaded, but the Dolphins took the win on a groundout and a

LANCHEROS

From Page 28

hits and a walk in the fifth.

That five-run explosion was aided by a two-run single from Ngiraikelau, who later scored his second run, duplicating Bobai and Asanuma's feats.

Kentaro made the final run on Fulk Haruos' single.

In the other match, the Dolphins capitalized on a 3-0 lead after four full innings then dashed off an attempted rally by the Trubaks in the top of the seventh.

Tom Diaz doubled, then scored on a single by Perry

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 **27**

The Week in Sports

Netters, cagers deliver in crunch time

NMI junior netter Ji Hoon Heo played only in his first tournament of the year on Saipan last week, but still delivered when he ruled the centerpiece men's open singles division of the 9th Annual PIC Tennis Championships held at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

Heo won in the finals over former Drake University standout and Coconut Classic defending champion Kirk Schuler, 6-4, 6-0.

Also delivering under pressure were Heo's fellow junior netters Thea Minor, Christian Miller, Carl Dela Cruz, Melody Johnson, and Tammy Ackerman, and adult players Dong Min Lee, Denis Karyakin, and Eun Kyong Lee.

In basketball, three various leagues entered the crucial stage of their competitions last week.

In the 2009 Navy Hill Friendship Basketball League, Dollar Days and KFC/Taco Bell split the first two games of their best-of-three title series.

In the 2009 BANMI/Budweiser Basketball League, Docomo Pacific and Diamond Auto Fixers are both a win away from clinching finals tickets after nailing two victories each in the playoff round. Ol'Aces, Quichocho Law Office, IT&E, and CNMI Nationals are still in contention, while the Runnin' Rebels were booted out.

In the 2009 Budweiser Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino Invitational Basketball League over at the Tinian Municipal Gymnasium, the semifinals cast was completed with Pacific Islands Club and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan/Saipan Grand Hotel joining early qualifiers Hyatt Regency Saipan and Aqua Resort Club. Host Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino and Saipan World Resort were eliminated.

Hopwood Junior High School was also out of playoffs contention in the ongoing Budweiser Inter-Government/ Business Slow-pitch Softball League, but bowed in style after drilling its first win in 19 games via a close 15-14 victory over Saipan Mayor's Office.

The title game in the 2009 Han Nam Market Cup at the Oleai Sports Com-

plex Field was also a neck-and-neck battle with FC Arirang prevailing over Inter Godfather's, 1-0.

Kim Kwang Sik scored the winning goal in the 40th minute, as FC Arirang went undefeated in four games in the oneday soccer tournament.

Seven teams joined the Han Nam Market Cup with squads divided into two pools. Joining FC Arirang in Pool A were Multinational FC. Wild Bill's Independents, and Marianas Pacific United. Inter was in Pool B, along with Korea Junior and Club Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

Talking of unbeaten



Eventual boys' 14-and-under singles champion Christian Miller serves against Chris Park during their first round match in the PIC/Gatorade netfest last week at the Pacific Islands Club hard court



Kieran Daly in the run portion of the Olympic-distance triathlon tournament held last week from Paupau Beach to Bird Island Lookout

> Days Wowie Abuel. left, and Ivan De Vero, center, chase KFC/ Bell's Taco Bonbon Cadagat down the sideline during Game 1 of their title series in the Navy Hill caging last week at the Garapan Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Doubles Tournament kicked off at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium with six pairs earning perfect records.

Also keeping their clean slate were

the Ol'Aces, who notched their seventh

straight win in the Major Division of

the 2009 Saipan Little League Baseball

competition after whipping the Enforc-

ers, 18-7, at the Miguel "Tan Ge' Base

Over at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Pala-

cios Ballfield for the Junior Division, the

Patriots avenged their first round loss to

The Patriots improved to an

In the 2009 Budweiser Saipan Major

League, which is also being played at

the "Tan Ko" ballfield, the Ford Rang-

ers escaped past the Tanapag Falcons,

8-7, to join the D-9ers on top of the

Kieran Daly was alone when he

The PIC general manager timed in two

hours, 20 minutes in the race that started

from Paupau Beach to Bird Island Look-

out and back. The race was one of several

events leading up to the XTERRA Saipan

A total of 21 triathletes joined the

tournament, according to event orga-

nizer Michael S. Johnson of the Northern

Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation.

Championship and Tagaman Triathlon.

crossed the finish line for the Olympic-

distance triathlon tournament.

the Ol'Aces via a 10-9 triumph.

Pangelinan Ballfield.

8-1 slate.

team standings.

Gary Bandoja, who teamed up with Edwin Montoya, returns to Macoi Aguda and Saul Gargallo during their game in the men's A division of the 2009 IT&E Badminton Doubles Tournament last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.





FC Arirang representatives hold the championship trophy the club won in last week's 2009 Han Nam Market Cup at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR Christian Mizer in action for the Patriots in the Junior Division of the Saipan Little League.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO Docomo's James Villacrusis, shows his dribbling skills against IT&E's Gyles Ruluked during their playoff game in the Budweiser caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Netters, cagers deliver in crunch time

CNMI junior netter Ji Hoon Heo played only in his first tournament of the year on Saipan last week, but still delivered when he ruled the centerpiece men's open singles division of the 9th Annual PIC Tennis Championships held at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

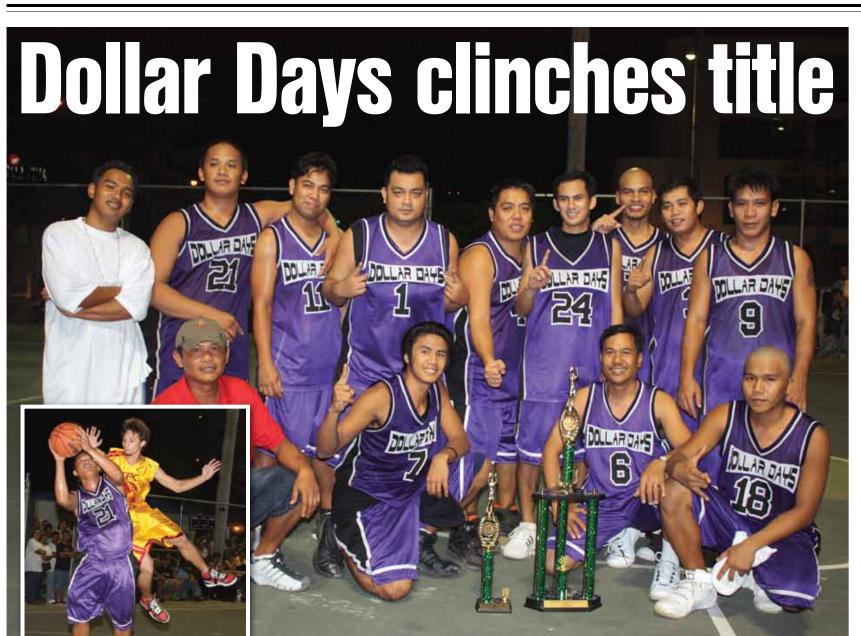


Spartans vs. Tar **Heels in NCAA finals**

As his Michigan State teammates hustled downcourt, Kalin Lucas looked around at a stadium ablaze in green and white, turned on his megawatt smile and raised both his arms



28 MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Members of Dollar Days pose with their championship trophy after beating KFC/Taco Bell in the finals of the Navy Hill caging Saturday at the Garapan Basketball Court. Inset, Dollar Days' Bart Demapan, left, is bumped by KFC/ Taco Bell's Quincy Johnson in the deciding Game 3 of their title series.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFC/Taco Bell had a nightmare Saturday night and when it woke up, it was too late, as Dollar Days was already counting on its winnings.

Capitalizing on KFC/Taco Bell's misfortunes for Friendship Basketball League.

almost the entire night, Dollar Days won the deciding Game 3 of their title series at the jampacked Garapan Basketball Court, 97-83, to gain the cham-

Dollar Days went to its winning formula in Game 1, attacking early and taking a big 14-point lead at the end of the first period, 31-17. Dollar Days led by 15 (32-17) in the first quarter of its 119-111 overtime win in Game 1. In Game 2, KFC/Taco Bell had the lead, pionship in the 2009 Navy Hill 29-28, after the first 10 minutes of play, and it went on

Lancheros, Salty **Boys prevail in Masters opening**

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.



The MGO Lancheros opened their title campaign in the 2009 Belau Softball Masters League with

a 12-3 win over Choll Aces on March 29 at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

Joe Lizama clinched the first two-run homerun of the season in the top of the seventh, as the Lancheros made four in that inning to cap the easy win.

Bill Aguon and John Maratita bot went 3-for-4 at bat and scored three runs each for the Lancheros.

Ray Aldan completed seven innings, striking out four and giving up 11 hits.

Two other teams were off to a good start with the Salty Boys beating Kagman Jack, 8-1, and IT&E Dolphins nipping Team Trubaks, 3-1.

Ton Magofna singled on his way to the game's first run in the top of the first inning via Ton Norita's double and a Jeff Cabrera single, but that was the best that Kagman Jack could muster in the match.

John Wayne Kentaro and Steve Brel drove Leo Bobai and Luis Ngiraikelau home, as the Salty Boys quickly retaliated in the bottom of the first.

Darwin Masaharu singled to send Hines Asanuma to home plate in the third for a 3-1 lead and the Salty Boys added five more runs out of six See LANCHEROS on Page 26

BJ Sablan leads batting race in Budweiser softball

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com REPORTER



BJ Sablan of the Beach Boys found himself on top of the list in the batting leaders in the Budweiser Inter Government/

Business Slow-pitch Softball League. Sablan maintains a slight lead over

closest rival, Payton Sakuma, of Docomo, as the league nears its completion of the regular season.

As of March 20, Sablan averaged .789, hitting 30-for-38 at bat. Sakuma had .788 after going 41-for-52 at bat. Sablan and Sakuma are the only players from their respective teams to make

See BJ on Page 26

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR

BJ Sablan, seen here getting ready at bat for the Falcons in the Saipan Major League, also plays for the Beach Boys in the Budweiser Inter Government/Business Slow-pitch Softball League.



St. Patrick rules Mahi Derby

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.



St. Patrick won the 5th Annual Miller Lite Mahi Fishing Derby Saturday, getting the heaviest catch of the day on

Boat captain Manding Legaspi and anglers Tony Maestro and Dong Salini had a winning catch weighing 19.70 lbs. to bring home the top prize of \$1,500 in cash, plus gift certificates from event sponsors.

The second heaviest mahi-mahi weighed 19.45 lbs. and was owned by Takedae Nakazato (captain), Gus Castro, and Frank Tudela aboard Blue Water. They shared the second prize of \$1,000 cash.

Last year's winning boat Sea Craft IV had its heaviest catch tipping the scale at 18.20 lbs, which was good only for third place. Sea Craft IV captain An-

See ST. PATRICK on Page 26



NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

The crew of St. Patrick led by captain Manding Legaspi (holding the plaque) receive the first prize of \$1500 cash and gift certificates from Saipan Fishermen Association president Gene Weaver, left, during the awards ceremony for the 5th Annual Miller Lite Mahi Fishing Derby Saturday at the Smiling Cove Marina.

nie Legaspi and angler Rolly Trajeco settled for \$500.

San Juan II's Juan San Nicolas (cap-

tain) and Erral Moises (angler) also came in with a 18.20 lb-catch, but they dropped to fourth place and won \$300,